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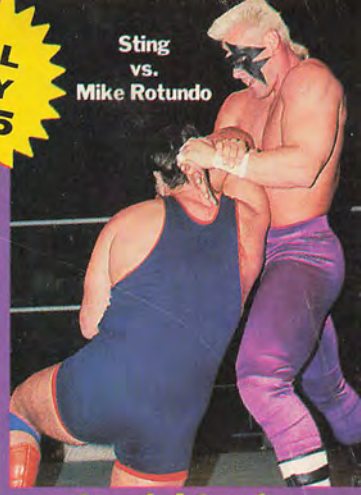

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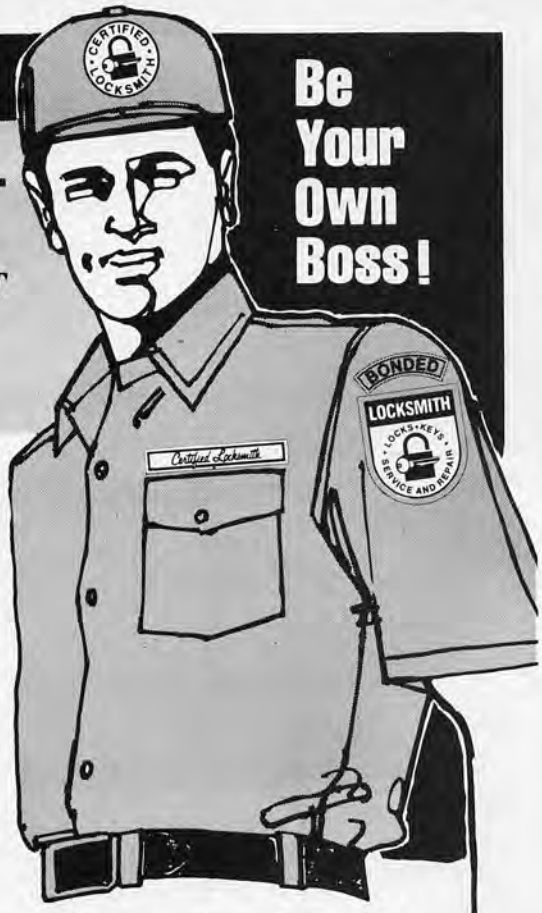

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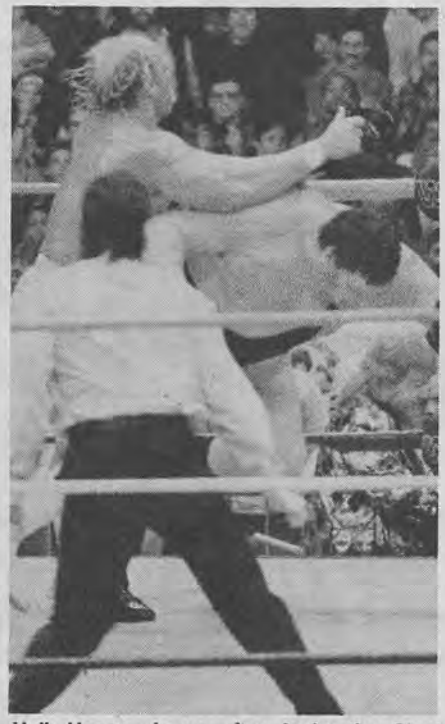
DON'T PICK ON HOGAN

I admit that Hulk Hogan attacking Andre the Giant after The Survivor Series was despicable and uncalled for, but do you really have to spend so much time crying about it? You always find something wrong with Hogan, don't you? Some little flaw you can whine about. But whenever Ric Flair does something like that, you people at *Sports Review Wrestling, Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, or the other sister publications will always say "his talent makes up for it."



Hulk Hogan chases after Andre the Giant during The Survivor Series. While reader Chris Pyhtila admits that Hogan shouldn't have attacked Andre, he thinks Hogan is picked on too often.

What about Hulk Hogan's character? The sportsmanlike way he acts the rest of the time should overshadow his mistake at The Survivor Series.

CHRIS PYHTILA
Houghton, MI

NEW AND IMPROVED

I am writing in response to Robert Sundeen's letter entitled "New Matches" (March 1988 *Sports Review Wrestling)*. To start with, I didn't like the idea about the "fool in the pool," which would be rather boring. I did like the idea of a "you gotta give it up" match. I'd like to see some of the hotshots come to the ring like normal people; I'd love to see The Road Warriors humiliated like that!

As for the "let the fans pick" match, I think it's great. I get sick of seeing good guys vs. bad guys, with the good guys always winning. I seriously think that the WWF, NWA, World Class, and others should listen to the fans' ideas for a wider variety of matches. This would bring more publicity to wrestling, and a lot more excitement.

GREG PLILER
Bondurant, IA

FAIR WARNING

An open letter to Mike Rotundo and Rick Steiner:

Both of you have the potential to be world champions someday, but right now there is someone holding you back: Kevin Sullivan. Sullivan will do nothing but hurt your careers. He is using you two for his own benefit.

Jake Roberts, Bob Roop, Mark Lewin, and Mike Davis were all brainwashed by Sullivan in the past, and now it's you. Sullivan cares about himself only and will not hesitate to stab you in the back.

I realize that it's not my place to tell you what to do with your careers, but take a look at what happened to the others who put their trust in Sullivan. If you're smart, both of you will quit The Varsity Club before it's too late.

JEFF HUTCHISON
Youngstown, OH

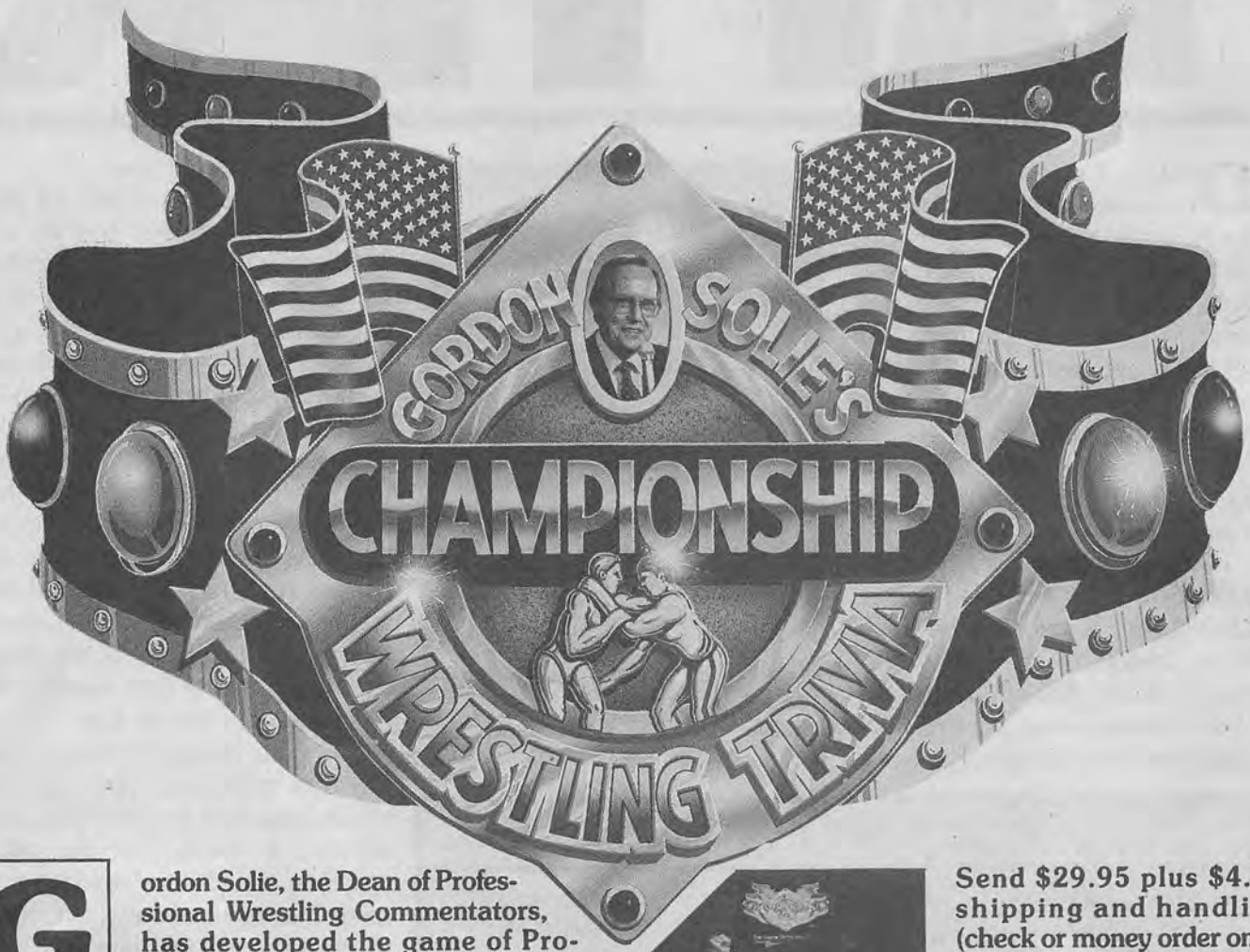
ROCK 'N' RUN

Why did The Rock 'n' Roll Express leave the NWA? Were they afraid of something or someone? They were probably afraid of Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson, the best tag team in the world. I always said that when things got too hot for Rick Morton and Robert Gibson, they'd take the low road and leave.

Where are they now, in the AWA side of Memphis? They should do well there; the competition isn't as great. But then again, The Rock 'n' Roll Express isn't that great anymore, either. People are tired of their constant rock

(Continued on page 52)

THE DEAN OF T.V. WRESTLING COMMENTATORS PRESENTS THE GAME OF CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING



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THE TATTLER

DALLAS, TX: The World Class heavyweight title is back in the hands of the Von Erichs. Kerry Von Erich, who returned last November from a career-threatening injury suffered in June 1986, substituted for Michael Hayes and defeated Al Perez for the belt on March 6. Perez had held the belt since August 21, 1987, when Kevin Von Erich was forced to forfeit the title due to an injury.

Hayes was injured two days earlier while performing with his Badstreet Band at The Sportatorium. Hayes got in the middle of an argument between Buddy Roberts and Kerry. When Roberts swung a guitar at Von Erich, Kerry ducked and Hayes was struck in the head. Hayes suffered a concussion and was helped off the stage. Hayes lost his position as number-one contender; Terry Gordy, the number-two contender, was on a tour of Japan.

KERRY VON ERICH

Kerry prepared for the match on short notice but performed brilliantly against the talented Perez. After 26 minutes of hot action, referee Rick Hazzard tried to get between the two wrestlers to break up a clinch, but Perez kept going after Kerry. Hazzard was struck by Perez and fell to the mat semiconscious. Perez then tossed Kerry out of the ring, and manager Gary Hart, standing at ringside, began kicking him.

Von Erich managed to work his way back to the ring apron, but Perez dragged him into the ring and delivered a vicious piledriver, after which he tossed Kerry over the top rope. The devious Perez then woke up Hazzard and told him to count Kerry out. At the 17-count (a 20-count is necessary for a countout disqualification in World Class), Perez became overanxious and tried to slam Von Erich into the ring. But Kerry held on to Perez as he struck the mat and rolled him over for the pin.

"I'm thrilled that I was able to regain the belt for all the good people of Texas," said Kerry afterward, "and I'm even more excited that I got it back from a man like Perez. I think it's pretty ironic that Perez got beat-

(Continued on page 62)

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THE QUESTION:
"Should Ric Flair be required to defend his NWA title outside the NWA?"

THE ANSWERS:
Andrew Mezey, Ardsley, NY: "Absolutely. For too long, the monopolistic tendencies of not only the WWF, but also the NWA over the other wrestling bodies has virtually stifled the level of competition that we, the true lovers of wrestling, are able to witness. As far as Flair is concerned, what wrestling fan would not relish a chance to be on hand for dream matches with Hulk Hogan, Al Perez, or Owen Hart? I liken the potential for watering down of talent to what is right now occuring in the world of boxing. There are just too many divisions and not enough bona fide competition. Let's unify the sport!"

Gregory Corning, Medicine Hat, Alberta: "We Albertans take our wrestling pretty seriously and would relish a chance to see fellow Canadian Owen Hart rip the blond locks off that pitty-pat Ric Flair. While I don't think that any of the governing bodies has any *legal* claim to how Flair chooses to defend his title and/or reputation, I think that since both Hart and Al Pe-

(Continued on page 60)

Most wrestling fans would enjoy seeing NWA World champion Ric Flair defend his title in other federations, but unfortunately that's not going to happen. Besides, Flair has plenty of competition in the NWA to keep him busy.

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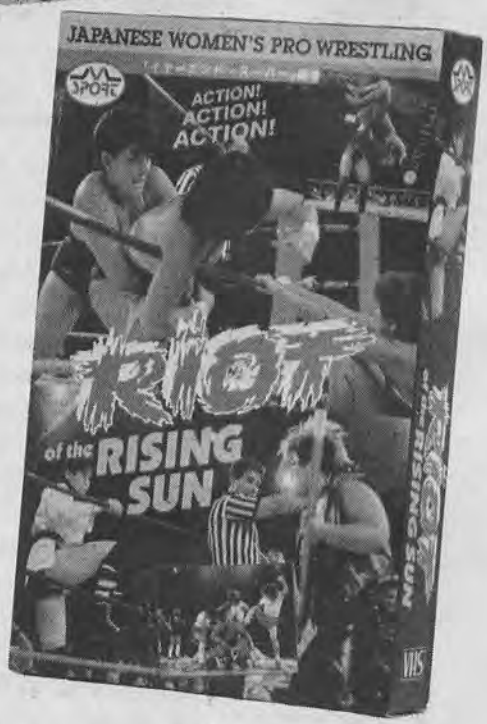


Slant-Eyed Slaughter

(running time: approximately 70 minutes)

- Wendi Richter & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Okumura
- Nancy Kumi vs. Lucy Kayama
- Monster Ripper & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Mimi Hagiwara
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Tarantula
- "Crush Girl" Lioness Asuka vs. "Crush Girl" Chigusa Nagayo

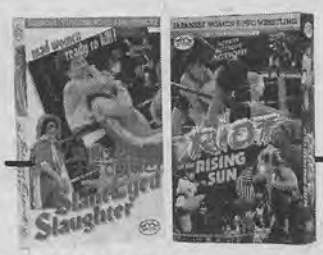
Riot Of The Rising Sun

(running time: approximately 70 minutes)

- Yukari Omori & Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori vs. Noriyo Tateno & Itysuki Yamasaki—"The Jumping Bomb Angels"
- Masked You & Kaoru "Dump" Matsumoto vs. Lioness Asuka & Chigusa Nagayo—"The Crush Girls"
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Las Galactia
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. "Devil" Masami

Special Magazine Offer:

In the past, you might have expected to spend upwards of $59.95, $69.95, or more for tapes of this quality. But now, for a limited time only, you can order **Slant-Eyed Slaughter** and **Riot Of The Rising Sun** for the special low price of only $29.95 each (plus $3.00 postage and handling). Witness all the excitement and thrills of Japanese women's wrestling—in your own home.



SPECIAL NOTE: These tapes, distributed by Powersports Video in association with American Video, are being sold exclusively for a limited time only in the United States by T.V. Sports. Both tapes include English play-by-play commentary recorded alongside the original Japanese commentary and crowd noise. While the English commentary is poor, the action level and match quality of these bouts more than makes up for it. We're convinced you'll be *completely* satisfied by these programs.

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SCRAPBOOK

MAY/JUNE 1968

Bruno Sammartino was handed back his WWF championship belt after defeating George "The Animal" Steele. He thanked the Madison Square Garden crowd for its support with a wave of his massive arms and returned to the dressing room. But that was not Bruno's last appearance of the evening. In the following match, Ernie "The Cat" Ladd, a tackle for the Kansas City Chiefs, beat Earl "Mr. Universe" Maynard. The 6'9" Ladd then sat down in the ring and refused to leave until he was guaranteed a title shot with Sammartino. Bruno, to the crowd's thunderous applause, came out of the dressing room and signed a contract with Ladd on the spot to wrestle in the Garden in July ... Another pro football player, Jim Nance of the Boston Patriots, began a pro wrestling career in Ohio and upstate New York. Nance is a former NCAA champion ... Argentina Apollo returned to the mat wars in tag team competition along with Danny Hodge. Hodge, meanwhile, was inducted into the Amateur Wrestling Hall of Fame in Oklahoma. Hodge was a silver medalist at the 1952 and 1956 Olympics ... Larry Hennig, having recovered from a broken leg, rejoined Harley Race as the two became the dominant tag team in the Central States area ... NWA World champion Gene Kiniski embarked on a tour of Europe. In St. Louis, prior to his departure, Kiniski unmasked Dr. Scarlet as Bill Watts ... Hell's Angels, the tag team of Bobby Barnes and Adrian Street, were Britain's top-rated tag team ... Victor Rivera scored the biggest win of his young career, defeating the gargantuan "Crybaby" Cannon in Madison Square Garden ... Terry and Dory Funk Jr. were the fans' favorites in their feud with Kurt and Karl Von Brauner ... Kenji Shibuya toppled Pepper Gomez in front of a disappointed capacity crowd in Stockton, California ... Montreal, reestablishing itself as one of wrestling's capitals, was the site of victories by Edouard Carpentier over Dr. Bill Miller and The Sheik ... NWA RATINGS: 1—Gene Kiniski; 2—The Sheik; 3—Fritz Von Erich; 4—Eddie Graham; 5—Johnny Valentine; 6—Lou Thesz; 7—Dick the Bruiser; 8—Wilbur Snyder; 9—John Paul Henning; 10—Johnny Powers. AWA RATINGS: 1—Verne Gagne; 2—Bill Watts; 3—Harley Race; 4—Mighty Igor; 5—Crusher; 6—Doug Gilbert; 7—Mad Dog Vachon; 8—Larry Hennig; 9—Bob Geigel; 10—Reg Parks. WWF RATINGS: 1—Bruno Sammartino; 2—George Steele; 3—Ernie Ladd; 4—Hans Mortier; 5—Spiros Arion; 6—Prof. Toru Tanaka; 7—Victor Rivera; 8—Gorilla Monsoon; 9—Bull Ramos; 10—Luke Graham. TAG TEAMS: 1—Bruiser & Crusher; 2—Pepper Gomez & Pedro Morales; 3—Gorilla Monsoon & Prof. Toru Tanaka; 4—Miguel Perez & Pete Sanchez; 5—The Scott Brothers; 6—Wilbur Snyder & Pat O'Connor; 7—George Becker & Johnny Weaver; 8—Hans Mortier & Bull Ramos; 9—The Assassins; 10—Ray Stevens & Skull Murphy.

(Continued on page 46)

Former pro footballer Jim Nance began a pro wrestling career in 1968. He was an amateur champion in college.

Edouard Carpentier was a favorite of Montreal fans. In 1968 he scored impressive victories over Dr. Bill Miller and the dreaded Sheik.

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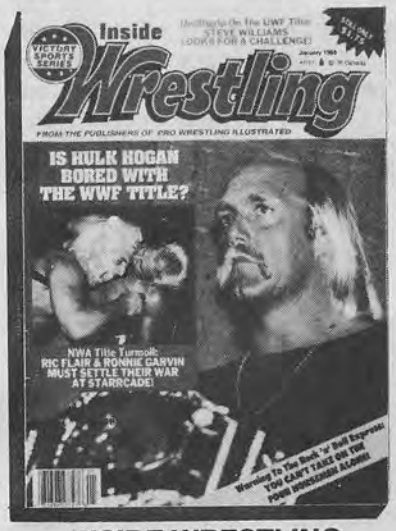
Inside Wrestling
IS HULK HOGAN BORED WITH THE WWF TITLE?
NWA Title Turmoil: RIC FLAIR & RONNIE GARVIN MUST SETTLE THEIR WAR AT STARRCADE!

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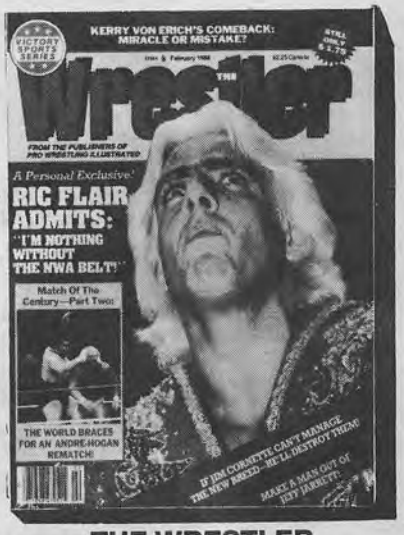
KERRY VON ERICH'S COMEBACK: MIRACLE OR MISTAKE?
The Wrestler
A Personal Exclusive!
RIC FLAIR ADMITS: "I'M NOTHING WITHOUT THE NWA BELT!"
Match Of The Century—Part Two!
THE WORLD BRACES FOR AN ANDRE-HOGAN REMATCH!

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TOP WRESTLE
YOUR QUESTION

Do you have a question you want answered by 10 of wrestling's top stars? Each month, *Sports Review Wrestling* will publish a fan's "Question of the Month," which will be answered by the sport's top superstars. If you have a question you would like to see answered, send it to:

ASK THE STARS
Sports Review Wrestling
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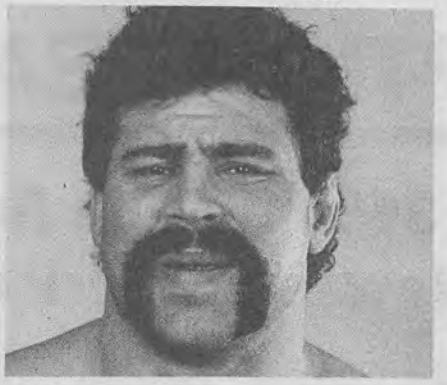
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

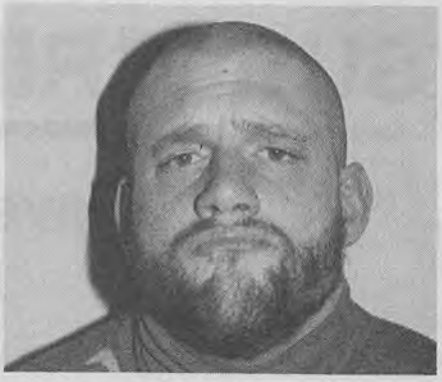
THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

"Do you wrestle in a match for pride or because of your hatred of your opponents?"
Submitted by:
Scott O'Neill
Union, NJ



RICK STEINER

"My main motivation for wrestling in 1988 is to prove that The Varsity Club is the greatest conglomeration of talent that the sport has ever seen. I never used to get really angry at these bums, but since I've learned the ways of the great Kevin Sullivan, my main objective is to destroy these jerks in the most painful way possible."



SOLDAT USTINOV

"I hate this stinking country. I hate this terrible food. I hate pantywaists like American Greg Gagne and puny Mitch Snow. I hate these decadent American cities like Minneapolis and Las Vegas. I hate having to appear in interviews with fools and morons like Larry Nelson and Lee Marshall. I hate any contact whatsoever with these idiot U.S. wrestling fans! I hate your question!"

ADRIAN ADONIS

"When I first came to the AWA, I was in a real good mood. But since me and 'Ace' Bob Orton got a good look at all the title hold-ups, fool referees, lousy fans, and squeaky-clean mamma's boys like Greg Gagne and his type, I've been in a crummy mood. And you can bet that we'll take our frustrations out on all these fools this federation insists on throwing at us."

MATT BORNE

"It's pride for sure. Sure, I get riled up at my opponents. But second-generation wrestlers like me always have a standard to live up to. I consider my father to be one of the greatest wrestlers that ever stepped into the squared circle, and if I've turned out to be half the wrestler my father was, then my pride has been fulfilled in spades."

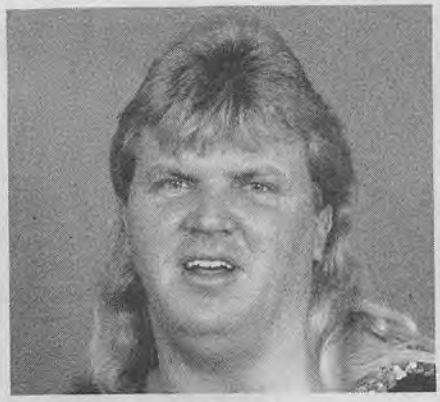
RS ANSWER OF THE MONTH

JEFF JARRETT
"Talk about a loaded question! Actually, both answers can apply. The main motivation for my becoming a wrestler, and the reason why I compete, is because of my pride and my love for the sport. But when someone like Jimmy Jack Funk or Teijho Khan tries to hurt their opponents for no reason, then it's very easy for hatred to form in your heart."

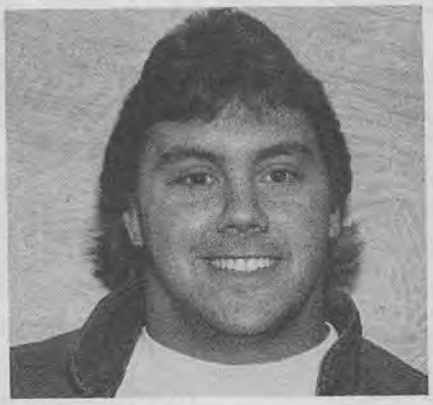
CARLOS COLON
"It is not the best thing to say, but there are several opponents that I would like to eliminate from wrestling. You can definitely determine by my actions that I'm trying to rid the sport of these men! When someone like Abdullah the Butcher or Hercules Ayala is trying to rip you apart, how can you *not* feel anything but the greatest hatred?"

JIMMY GARVIN
"I generally wrestle for pride. I've had more than my share of feuds, but the main thing that keeps me going is that I've helped to make the Garvin name one of the most respected in wrestling. The history books show that both Jimmy and Ronnie Garvin have held many, many championships, and I'm proud to be a part of the history of this great sport."

BARRY WINDHAM
"You really can't let hatred determine your actions, because when you're in the ring, anger can make you make some bad moves. One bad decision can end a wrestling match in a matter of seconds. That's why you can't let your emotions take control when the heat is on. It's tough to keep it cool when you're being pounded, but a victory makes all the pain go away."



BOBBY EATON
"I try to act the way Jim Cornette and his Mama want me to act. If Jimmy wants me and Stan to do a number on skunks like the Garvins or The Lightning Express, you can bet that the first thing I want to do when I get in the ring isn't shake hands. I want to meet 'em, defeat 'em, leave 'em for dead, and get on to the next thing Jimmy has in store."



MITCH SNOW
"I'm still pretty new to wrestling, and if anything, I kind of have to hold my pride back a lot. I'm just so enthusiastic when I get out to the arenas and meet the fans and see those bright lights and that ring, all I want to do is to show those great people and the entire wrestling world that Mitch Snow is definitely here to stay."

BACK ISSUES OF THE Wrestler

VICTORY SPORTS SERIES

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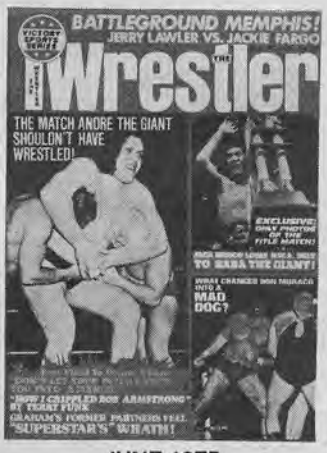

BATTLEGROUND MEMPHIS!
JERRY LAWLER VS. JACKIE FARGO
THE MATCH ANDRE THE GIANT SHOULDN'T HAVE WRESTLED!
EXCLUSIVE! ONLY PHOTOS OF THE TITLE MATCH!
TO RABA THE GIANT!
MAD DOG?

JUNE 1975

June 1975/Stories include: Andre, Muraco, Funk, Lawler.

August 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Patterson, Stasiak, Rivera.

December 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.

July 1976/Stories include: Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.

November 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.

December 1976/Stories include: Von Erich, Mulligan, Brody, Funk.

January 1977/Stories include: Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.

February 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.

April 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.

May 1977/Stories include: Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.

June 1977/Stories include: Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.

July 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Rocca, Mascaras.

October 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.

November 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.

September 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

November 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

December 1978/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

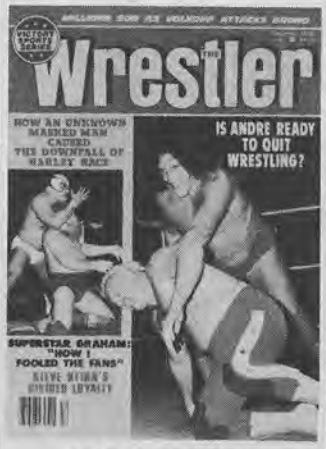
May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

August 1979/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

September 1979/Stories include: Superstar Gramham, Cyclone Negro, Greg Gagne, Mil Mascaras.

October 1979/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.


Wrestler
HOW AN UNKNOWN MARKED MAN CAUSED THE DOWNFALL OF HARLEY RACE
IS ANDRE READY TO QUIT WRESTLING?
SUPERSTAR GRAHAM: "HOW I FOOLED THE FANS"

DECEMBER 1979

December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

January 1980/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

February 1980/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

April 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

February 1981/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

March 1981/Stories include: Rich, Samoans, Blassie, Wrestling II.

May 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

June 1981/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

July 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

August 1981/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

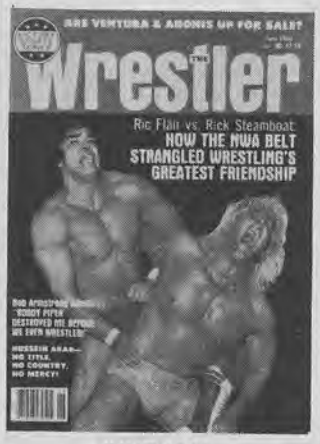
October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

April 1982/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.


ARE VENTURA & ADONIS UP FOR SALE?
Wrestler
Ric Flair vs. Rick Steamboat
HOW THE NWA BELT STRANGLED WRESTLING'S GREATEST FRIENDSHIP

JUNE 1982

June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

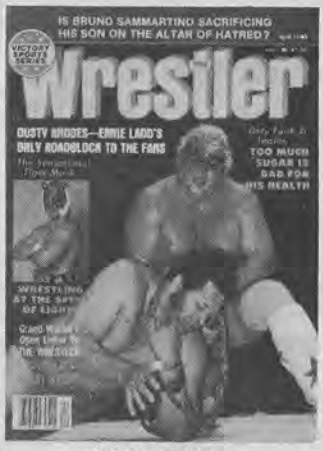
October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.


IS BRUNO SAMMARTINO SACRIFICING HIS SON ON THE ALTAR OF HATRED?
Wrestler
DUSTY RHODES—ERNIE LADD'S ONLY ROADBLOCK TO THE FANS
TOO MUCH SUGAR IS BAD FOR HIS HEALTH

APRIL 1983

April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

October 1983/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

November 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

BATTLING BACK TO MEND THE HEARTBREAK
Wrestler
Target: Harley Race!
CAN DUSTY RHODES FULFILL HIS AMERICAN DREAM A THIRD TIME?
SPOTLIGHT ON: MAGNIFICENT MURACO

NOVEMBER 1983

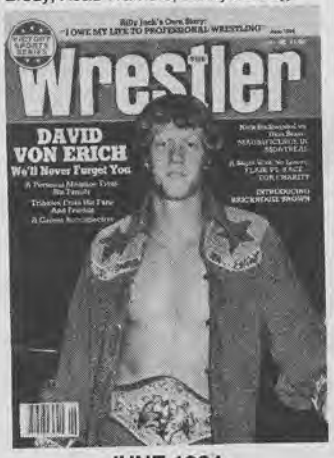
December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.



JUNE 1984

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

October 1984/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

December 1984/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.

January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

February 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.

March 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

May 1985/Stories include: Warriors. Backlund, Santana, Rich.

June 1985/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.

July 1985/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.

AUGUST 1985

August 1985/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.

September 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.

October 1985/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.

November 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.

December 1985/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.

January 1986/20th Anniversary Issue! 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino.

February 1986/Stories include: Hogan, Orndorff, Flair, Hansen.

March 1986/Stories include: Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen-Martel.

April 1986/Stories include: Von Erich, Rude, Lugar, Hogan, Magnum T.A.

May 1986/Stories include: Zbyszko, Von Erichs, Santana-Ventura, Hillbillies.

June 1986/Stories include: Lugar, Hernandez, Flair-Bockwinkel, Hogan, T.A.

July 1986/Stories include: King Kong Bundy, Koloff vs. Graham, Ric Flair.

August 1986/Stories include: Snuka, Bulldogs, Freebirds, Warriors, Duggan.

September 1986/Stories include: Fantastics, Adonis, Morton-Flair, Brody.

October 1986/Stories include: Nikita-Magnum, Nord, Bruno, Kerry, Windham.

November 1986/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan-Orndorff, Von Erich.

December 1986/Stories include: Flair, Bockwinkel, Hogan, Gilbert, Nikita.

January 1987/Stories include: Heenan, Garvins, DiBiase, Borne & Sawyer.

February 1987/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Gordy, Steamboat-Roberts.

March 1987/Stories include: Windham, Nikita, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

May 1987/Stories include: Flair-Nikita, Andre-Hogan, UWF, Windham, Hennig.

June 1987/Stories include: Flair-Windham, Can-Ams, Rhodes-Murdoch.

July 1987/Stories include: Cornette, Hyatt, Luger, Harts, Adams, Hansen.

August 1987/Stories include: Can-Ams, Luger vs. Nikita, Fantastics, Koko, Nord.

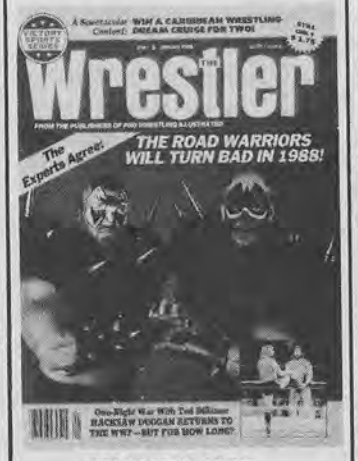
September 1987/Stories include: Koloffs, Harts, Duggan, Hennig, Hart.

October 1987/Stories include: Savage-Honky Tonk, Horsemen, Patera, Kerry.

November 1987/Stories include: Williams, Luger, Hogan-Khan, Rich.

December 1987/Stories include: Hogan, Windham, Lawler, Flair, Beefcake.

January 1988/Stories include: Nikita-Taylor, Warriors, DiBiase-Duggan.



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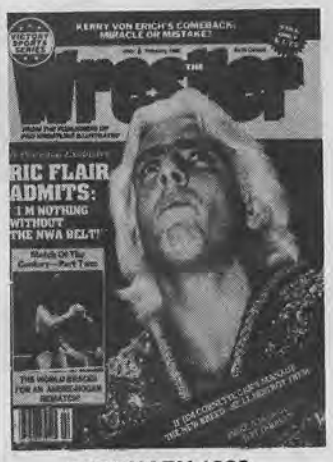

FEBRUARY 1988

February 1988/Stories include: Flair, Andre-Hogan, New Breed, Kerry.

March 1988/Stories include: Hogan, Luger-Sting, Calgary, Demolition.

APRIL 1988

April 1988/Special issue! Starrcade '87, Survivor Series, AWA & World Class. Also: Strike Force, Luger, Rockers.

May 1988/Luger-Horsemen, Hogan, Flair-Hart, Fantastics, DiBiase.

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WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

ROAD WARRIOR ANIMAL

ONE SHOULD NEVER kick a sleeping dog. So how smart is it to kick a sleeping Animal? Road Warrior Animal, that is.

Paul Jones and his "Powers Of Pain," Warlord and Barbarian, believed they had finished Animal when they crushed his eye socket and sent him into the hospital for major reconstructive surgery. But they soon learned that, as far as the Warriors are concerned, the phrase "an eye for an eye" is a way of life. Courage is a trait that comes naturally to Animal, a trait that earns him the distinction of being chosen this issue's "Wrestler of the Month."

Animal's honor is similar to that received by Hawk, who won "Wrestler of the Month" in our March 1987 issue when he wrestled in a scaffold match at Starrcade '86, less than a month after breaking the fibula in his left leg during a tour of Japan. Now, in March 1988, Animal has returned to the ring in equally stirring fashion, showing the wrestling world that The Road Warriors are a matched set in terms of courage.

"Animal is showing a tremendous amount of guts, and that's all too rare in wrestling these days," said veteran reporter Matt Brock. "His eye injury was one of the worst I've ever seen. I've criticized the Warriors for losing their aggressiveness, but this incident lit the fires underneath them again. Animal was back looking for revenge after just a few weeks!"

Manager Paul Jones, who sank to an all-time low in waging the attack on Animal, thought he had ended the Warrior's career during a bench-press challenge on January 30 in Greensboro, North Carolina. Instead, he sparked a new level of fury in the hearts of Animal, Hawk, and their manager Paul Ellering.

"We're going to kill them," Animal said upon his recovery from eye surgery.

The courage and drive shown by this 6'1", 285-pound monster is especially laudible considering the severity of his injury. The $50,000 bench-press challenge by Warlord and Barbarian, two of the most massively muscled monsters in the sport, was supposed to decide which team had superior strength. Instead, it turned into an ambush. Both teams had sucessfully lifted 475 pounds when Ellering, feeling the amount was child's play, insisted that the weight be brought up to 600 pounds.

Jones, however, fearing a loss was imminent, refused to raise the level of weight more than in 25-pound increments. As an argument between the managers broke out, Ivan Koloff, Jones' other hired assassin, threw a box of chalk powder into Hawk's face. Warlord grabbed Animal and smashed his head into the weights, sending them rolling toward ringside spectators. But the impact of the blow had crushed the orbital socket around Animal's left eye.

Animal's injury required delicate surgery. Cartilage from his nose had to be grafted to his face and his eyeball was pushed a quarter-inch back in the socket.

"Animal is history," boasted Jones. "The Warriors are yesterday's news. The Powers of Pain represent a new age for the NWA." But Animal has other plans.

"Doctors told me I might never wrestle again," Animal said in the June 1988 issue of *Inside Wrestling*. "They told me I might never see again. I had to consider what's *really* important for me. I had to evaluate a lot of things in my life. I decided that, with my last dying breath, I will make Warlord and Barbarian pay for what they did to me. They are dead men."

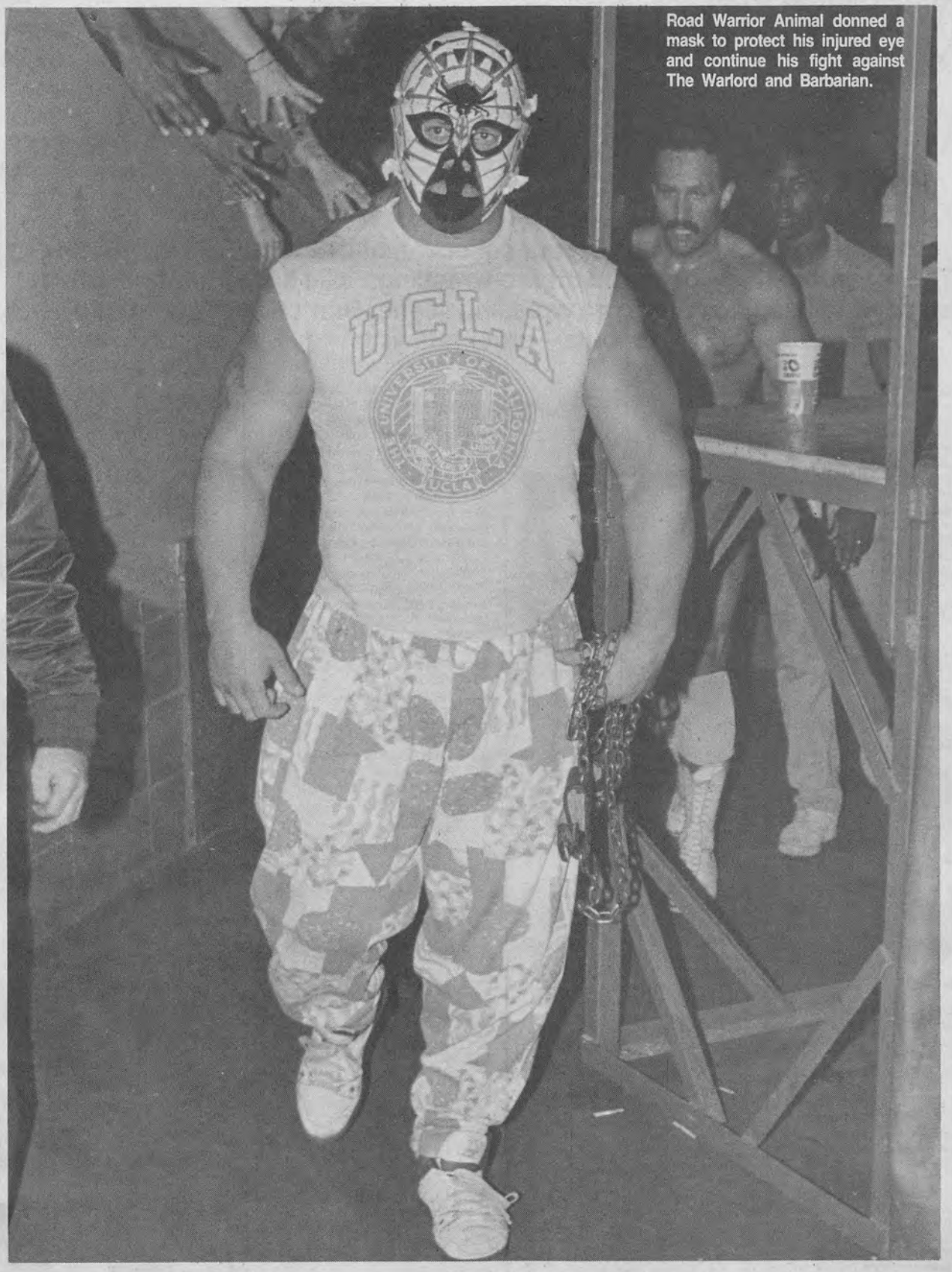
It's impossible to miss the intensity in Animal's eyes as he makes these threats. "When either of the Warriors or Ellering says something like that, you listen," said Brock. "But most of the reporters I know earmarked Animal's return to the ring for around June or July. Who would have believed he'd have the fortitude to even get *near* a ring this soon?"

Jones himself could not believe what happened to his team during a $50,000 ladder match recently at the Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, Long Island. Ellering filled in for Animal and teamed with Hawk against Barbarian and Warlord. Hawk and Ellering were losing badly, suffering a beating rarely experienced in their careers.

Suddenly, Animal, wearing an eye patch protected by a pair of sunglasses, stormed the ring when things looked darkest for his team. Animal and Hawk decimated Barbarian and Warlord by clotheslining them with the 12-foot ladder. Animal, half of wrestling's greatest tag team, had returned!

Although some have accused Animal of having more guts than brains in making his quick comeback, he insists he's ready to don the tights and put Jones and his men in their place. Disregarding medical advice, Animal is showing the fury that made The Road Warriors the most feared team in the sport when they first arrived on the scene.

And that, as far as we're concerned, is more than enough to earn Animal *Sports Review Wrestling's* "Wrestler of the Month" honors for this issue. □



Road Warrior Animal donned a mask to protect his injured eye and continue his fight against The Warlord and Barbarian.

BACK ISSUES OF

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July 1974/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.
September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.
November 1974/Stories include: Garvins, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.
August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.
September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.
February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.
March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.
April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

Inside
Wrestling
WHY TERRY FUNK MUST WRESTLE DORY FUNK JR.
How It Can Be Revealed: WWWF CHIEF STRONGBOW GOT A SHOT AT THE WWWF TITLE
Shocking Expose: IVAN PUTSKI WILL NEVER DEFEAT SUPERSTAR

AUGUST 1976

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.
September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.
October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.
November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.
December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.
January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.
August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.
September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.
October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.
November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.
December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.

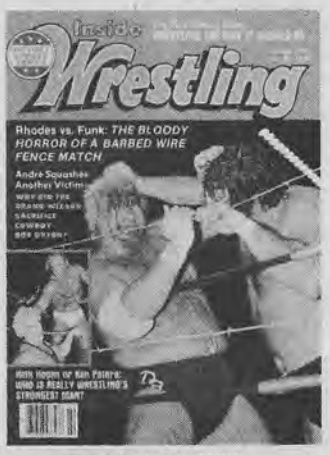
Inside
Wrestling
WHY SUPERSTAR GRAHAM WILL KEEP BRUNO OUT OF WRESTLING FOREVER!
DON'T BELIEVE THOSE LIES ABOUT DUSTY RHODES

MARCH 1978

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.
April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.
August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.
October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.
November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.
December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.
January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.
February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.
April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.
May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.
June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.
July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.
August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.
September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.
February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.
April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.
May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.
June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.
August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.
September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.
November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.
January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.
April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.
May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.
June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.
September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.
January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.
February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.
March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.
April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.
May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.
June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.
July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

AUGUST 1982

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.
September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.
October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.
November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.
December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.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André Squashes Another Victim
WHY DID THE GRAND WIZARD SACRIFICE COWBOY BOB ORTON?
WHO IS REALLY WRESTLING'S STRONGEST GIANT?

FEBRUARY 1983

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.
March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.
April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.
May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.
June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.
July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.
August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

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Wrestling
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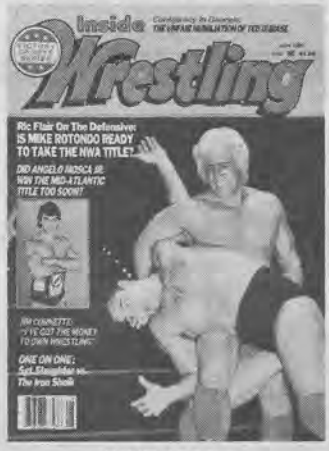
Nick Bockwinkel's Royal Boast: "FORGET JERRY LAWLER, I'M THE KING OF WRESTLING!"
IS JIMMY VALIANT TRADING HIS BLOOD FOR THE LOVE OF THE FANS?
ROCKY JOHNSON VS. MAGNIFICENT MUTILCO

AUGUST 1983

September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.
October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.
November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.
December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.
March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.
April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.
May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.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IS MIKE ROTONDO READY TO TAKE THE NWA TITLE?
DID ANGELO MOSCA JR. WIN THE MID-ATLANTIC TITLE TOO SOON?
ONE ON ONE:
The Iron Sheik

JUNE 1984

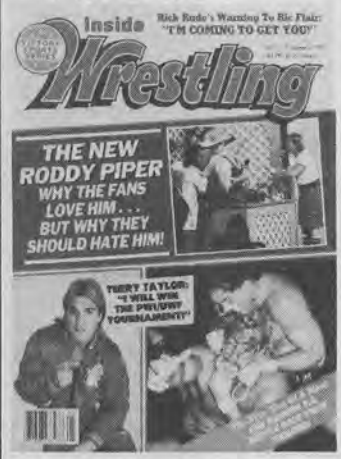
June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.
July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.
August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.
September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.
October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.
November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.
December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.
January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.
February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.
March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.
April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.
May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.
June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.
July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.
August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.
September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.
October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.
November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.
December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.
January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, Warriors.
February 1986/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

MARCH 1986

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Warriors-Russians, Rude.
April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts
May 1986/Stories include: Randy Savage, Stan Hansen, Rock 'n' Rolls.
June 1986/Stories include: Bulldogs, Windham-Flair, Lance Von, Blanchard.
July 1986/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, T.A.
August 1986/Stories include: WrestleMania 2, Garvins, Martel, Fab Ones.
September 1986/Stories include: Andre,Rhodes-T.A., Adams, Windham.
October 1986/Stories include: Flair-Lugar, Savage, Fantastics, Warriors.

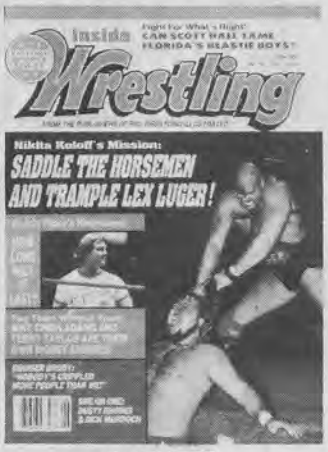
NOVEMBER 1986

November 1986/Stories include: Warriors-Flair, Bulldogs, Watts, Adams.
December 1986/Stories include: Hogan-Adonis, R&R Express, Baby Doll.
January 1987/Stories include: Rude-Flair, Piper, T.A., Taylor.


Inside
Wrestling
Rick Rude's Warning To Ric Flair:
"I'M COMING TO GET YOU"
THE NEW RODDY PIPER
WHY THE FANS LOVE HIM . . . BUT WHY THEY SHOULD HATE HIM!
TERRY TAYLOR:
"I WILL WIN THE PWI/UWF TOURNAMENT!"

JANUARY 1987

February 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Piper-Orndorff, Taylor, Flair.
March 1987/Stories include: Flair, Missy, Luger, Bulldogs, Koloffs.
April 1987/Stories include: Windham, Steamboat, Ellering, Duggan.
May 1987/Stories include: Windham & Luger, Steamboat, Hogan-Andre.



JUNE 1987

June 1987/Stories include: Piper-Adonis, Horsemen, Adams, Hall, Brody.
July 1987/Stories include: Danny Davis, DiBiase, Rockers, Rotundo, Andersons.
August 1987/Stories include: Dusty & Nikita, Hogan, Mike Von, Cornette.
September 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Race, R&R Exp., Rich, Honky Tonk.
October 1987/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan, Taylor-Adams, Lawler.
November 1987/Stories include: War Games, Mr. T, Bulldogs, Rhodes.
December 1987/Stories include: Freebirds, Rhodes, Magnum, Savage, Perez.
January 1988/Stories include: R&R-Horsemen, Hogan, Flair-Garvin.
February 1988/Stories include: Savage, Kevin Von, Sting, Tully & Arn.
March 1988/Stories include: Bigelow, Adams, Koloff, Honky Tonk, Freebirds.
April 1988/Stories include: Luger-Flair, Ultimate Warrior, Andre-Hogan-DiBiase.
May 1988/Stories include: Zbyszko, DiBiase, Warriors, Rockers, Fritz Von.

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SPORTS REVIEW

INTERVIEW

EDDIE GILBERT

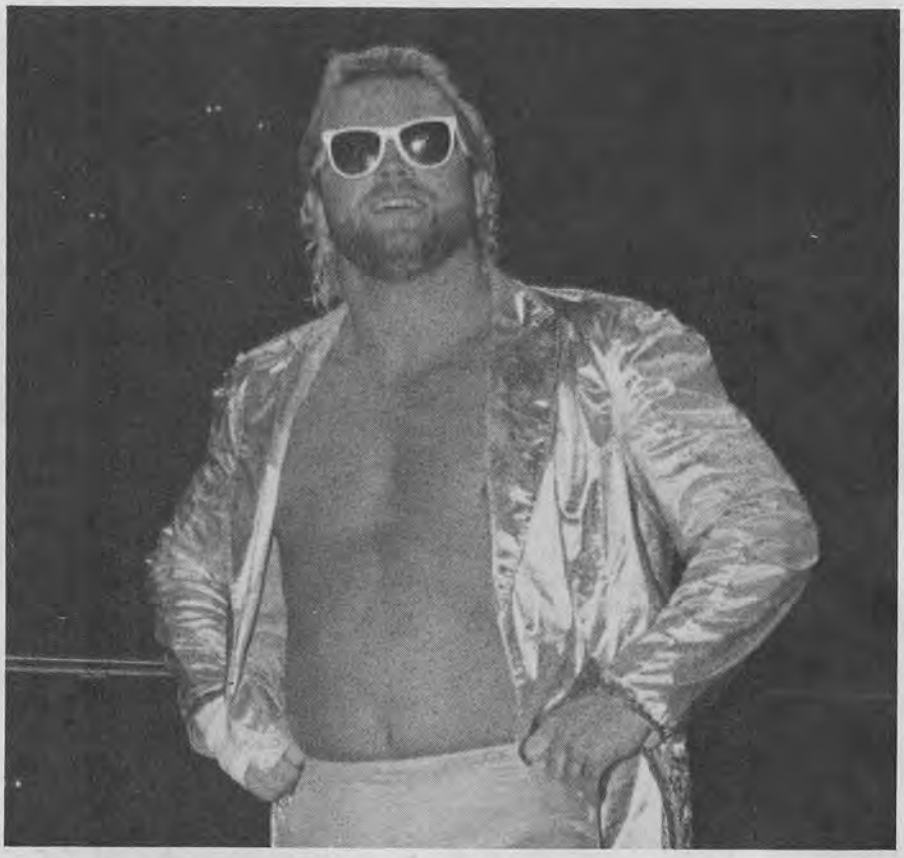
AT AN AGE when most wrestlers are still learning how to lace up their boots, Eddie Gilbert has proven that where there's "Hot Stuff," there's fire. Still in his 20s, Gilbert has been the focal point of more feuds and controversy than most wrestlers see in a career.

It's hard to believe that this 222-pound native of Lexington, Tennessee, is the same man who was once a Mid-Southern favorite. He was only 18 when he won his first tag team title with his father, Tommy Gilbert. After a world tour, he returned to Memphis in 1984 and formed a tag team with Tommy Rich dubbed "Fargo's Fabulous Ones," and captured the Mid-Southern tag title.

But their use of the "Fabulous" name sparked a feud with the other Fabulous Ones, Steve Keirn and Stan Lane. Violent confrontations between the teams set off a spark in Gilbert. He soon became a rulebreaker and won the Mid-Southern title from Jerry Lawler in 1985.

Later, Gilbert's "Hot Stuff, Inc." dominated the UWF as he managed and wrestled with such men as Kortsia Korchenko and The Blade Runners (one of whom was Sting). He also struck it rich in his personal life, winning the heart of Missy Hyatt. He later captured the UWF tag title with Sting.

The latter part of 1987 was rugged for Gilbert. He feuded with former protege Sting; Terry Taylor, a member of Gilbert's "First Family," lost the UWF TV title to Nikita Koloff at Starrcade '87 in a UWF/NWA TV title unification bout. Later, Gilbert headed to the CWA; within a few weeks, he, his younger brother Doug, and Hyatt were the most hated threesome in Memphis.



Hyatt (now Mrs. Eddie Gilbert) appeared at ringside with Doug during several bouts. Then, in a recent match between Rich and Lawler, Doug ran in the ring and helped Rich piledrive "The King," which led to an argument between Tommy Gilbert and promoter Eddie Marlin. Tommy slugged Marlin, but, as Lawler was making a comeback in the match, Eddie rushed in and threw fire at Lawler, severely burning him and putting his career in serious doubt.

And if that's not enough, Gilbert has resumed his feud with Keirn. Senior Editor Bill Apter ventured to Memphis to discuss these recent developments with Gilbert.

Q: I'm not surprised to see you stirring up things here in Memphis, Eddie. You can't go very long without starting trouble, can you?

A: Hey, you watch your mouth there, baldy boy. Things just naturally start hoppin' when I'm on the scene. It's a new era for the CWA, and the Gilberts are already the greatest family in the history of wrestling, with me, my little brother Doug, my wife Missy, and my dad Tommy.

Q: That brings me to an interesting question. For years, your father, Tommy, was one of the greatest scientific stars in wrestling. Later, when he was a referee in the UWF, he was outspoken about your turn to rulebreaking, and seemed quite bitter about his relationship with you. Suddenly he's slugging Eddie Marlin while your brother ambushes Jerry Lawler, and you burn Lawler to a crisp. I guess you and your father aren't enemies anymore.

A: Let's get something straight right here. Me and my dad were never enemies. We always had a fantastic relationship. Dad's problem was that he didn't understand that I never really broke the rules then, the same way I don't break the rules now. My actions are just natural reactions to what others try to do to me in the ring. It took him a while to figure it all out, but as you can see he agrees with me 100 percent now. It was great to see him stand up to Marlin the way he did, and with a great man like Tommy Gilbert to inspire me, and Doug, it's gonna be a new era for the CWA. And Missy is back to help us, too.

Q: You can't help but notice when Missy Hyatt is around, and it *is* kind of nice to see her back at ringside. What kind of chicanery is she planning for the area?

A: First of all, watch the way you talk about my wife, Apter. Second, it's about time there was a couple as classy as me and Missy around for people to model their lifestyles after. We set the pace wherever we travel, and now it's nice to be back home to show my people the way they should properly conduct themselves. Missy has definite designs on this *Jerry Lawler Show* that runs weekly down here. It's about time someone as beautiful and talented as Missy got a chance to run a real talk show, instead of having to play second fiddle to clowns like Jim Ross. We're gonna be the hosts of a show that has suffered too long by the presence of the so-called "King."

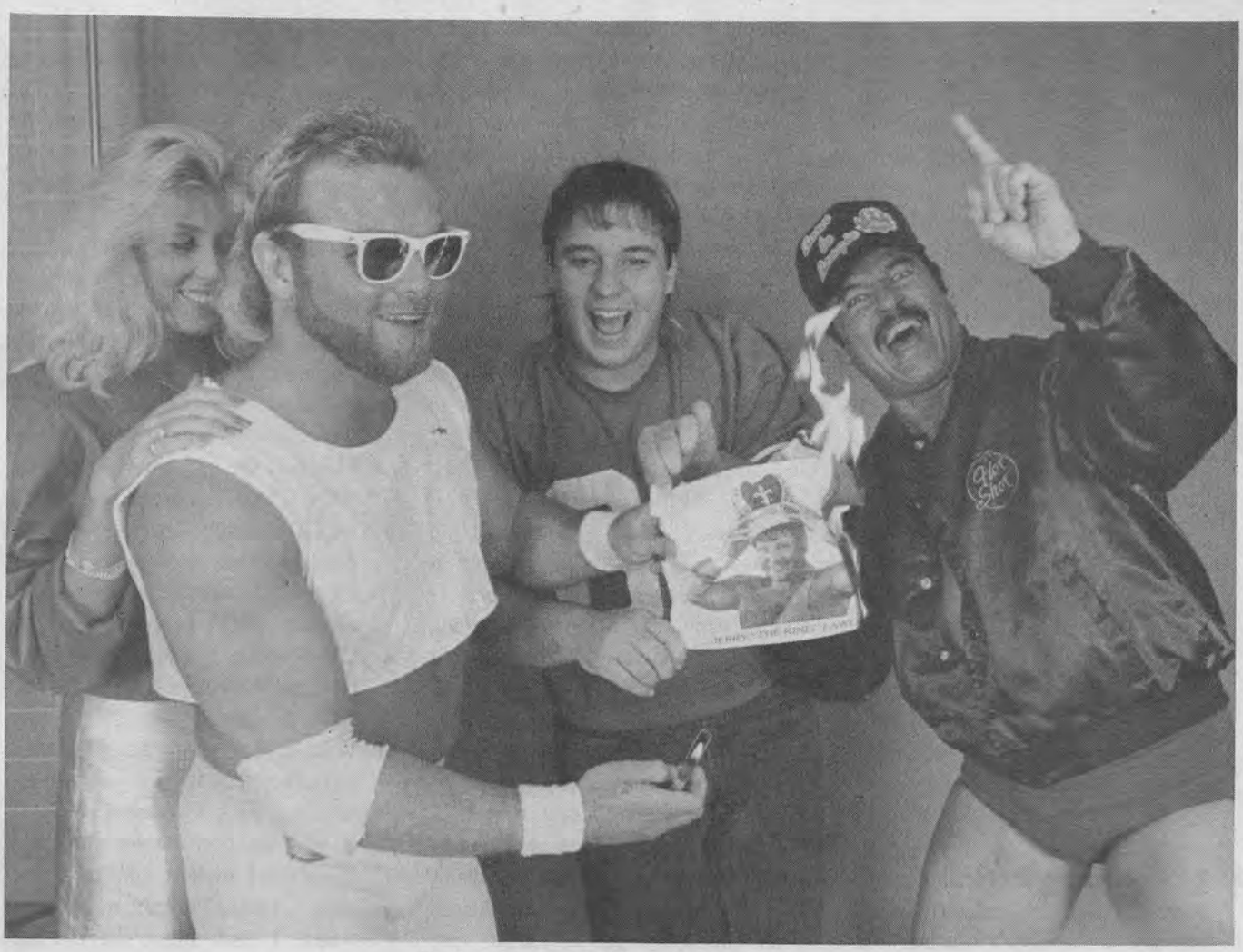
Q: Speaking of Lawler, your burning of his eyes and face during a match you weren't even involved in is one of the most cowardly acts I've ever seen.

A: Cowardly? If you ask me, *Lawler's* the coward. The reason I left Memphis the last time was because "The Queen" refused to wrestle me. I've really had it with the whole Lawler mythology. I'm not ashamed to admit one of my immediate goals in coming to the CWA was to put him out of wrestling permanently. These fans deserve a break.

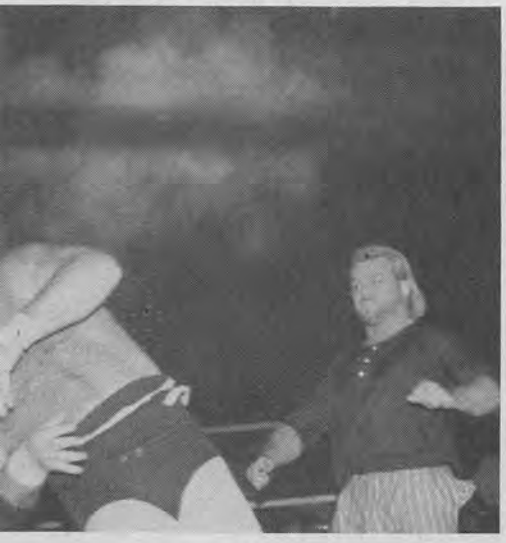
Q: What a nice sentiment. Were there any other reasons why you decided to come back to Memphis?

A: It was an easy choice to make. Whoever I managed in the UWF always soared directly to the top, where I had been already, but when the UWF merged with the NWA, I decided it was time to

CWA announcer Randy Hales welcomes Eddie Gilbert and Missy Hyatt to *The Jerry Lawler Show*. Gilbert and Hyatt plan to take over the show from Lawler and eliminate him from the sport.



Hyatt watches as Eddie and Doug Gilbert and their father, Tommy, burn a picture of Lawler (above), just as Eddie burned Lawler's face (left). The Gilbert-Lawler feud dates back to Gilbert's early days in Memphis, when he was one of "Fargo's Fabulous Ones."



move on. I should have been granted plenty of shots at the NWA World title, but they didn't want to know I was around. So I bolted, and the choice was much easier to make since Dad still lives here and Doug was beginning his pro career. I want to be here when he makes his move toward all the titles.

Q: Do you have any predictions for Doug's career? What kind of an example is Tommy to his son after he cheated to defeat Marlin and then tried to kill him with a belt?

A: I've always said that Dad had greatness in him. As for Doug, have you ever seen a killer instinct so strong in somebody so young? That's *my* influence. After only a few weeks, we've already gotten rid of that pest Marlin, Lawler . . .

Q: Yeah, you got rid of Lawler by blindsiding him and throwing fire into his face. A real act of sportsmanship.

A: Apter, *you've* been blinded, *hahaha,* so to speak, by your hero-worship mentality. Lawler throws fireballs all the time, and everybody thinks it's just great. But I can play at his low level, too, and now he's history. Idiots like Steve Keirn should get on their knees and thank me for this.

Q: It looks like Keirn is not quite finished with you, even after four years. He won't forgive you for copying the name of The Fabulous Ones.

A: You're right. Some folks just never learn. But we never stole the name from that wimpy team he used to have with Stan Lane. Me and Rich were *"Fargo's* Fabulous Ones," because we were helped in our training by the great Jackie Fargo. Keirn won't listen, but that's all right. We had our battles a few years ago, but, as the song says, he ain't seen nothing yet. This time he'll end up in the same shape as Lawler and Marlin. The new Gilbert regime in the CWA will show no mercy, which is something I've done a little too much of in the past, unfortunately.

Q: Sure. Sportsmanship and Eddie Gilbert always go hand-in-hand. But your tactics always seem to make a lot of enemies. Look at Sting, for example.

A: Sting would have been just another musclebound beach boy if he hadn't been guided by my steadying influence. Anybody who cuts on my teachings to Sting is an idiot. Sting was squat before I got hold of him, and it looks like he's gonna be nothin' again. When we split up he was teaming with Rick Steiner. Well, I see Steiner kicking Sting's butt right now, and poor Sting is just another prelim bum.

Q: Right. So what are your long range plans now that you're here to stay?

A: Well, if they were smart down here they would just hand over the CWA belt to me, since buffoons like The Nightmare, Jeff Jarrett, and Billy Travis don't have much of a chance to find their way to the arenas, let alone win a title. They're still matching me with bums like Nightmare when I should be facing top competition. Plus, I want Missy to have her own TV show down here. She deserves it, and by now everybody knows that what Missy wants, Missy gets. Then it's onward and upward for Doug, and he's gonna show his natural superiority to these swine.

Q: What about Tommy Rich?

A: Tommy has proven himself to me again, not that he really had to. He always was my favorite tag team partner, and he hates Lawler almost as much as I do. And Tommy would never let anything stand in the way of my success. Tommy Rich has never been better, and don't be surprised to see him grab a good deal of the gold around here before long.

Q: Well, Eddie, I guess I'll wish you luck here in the CWA, but knowing how you go about doing things in the . . .

A: I need luck in avoiding you, Apter. Missy just hates it when I waste valuable time like this. I'm gone. □

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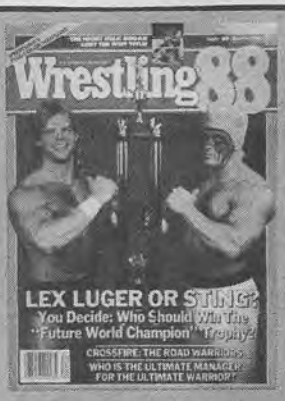
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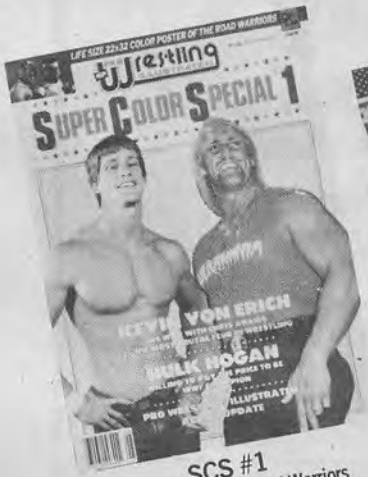

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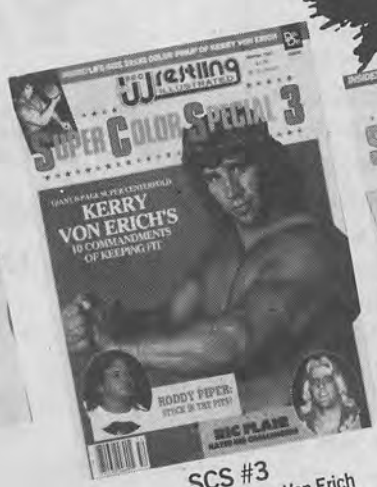
SuperCenterfold: Road Warriors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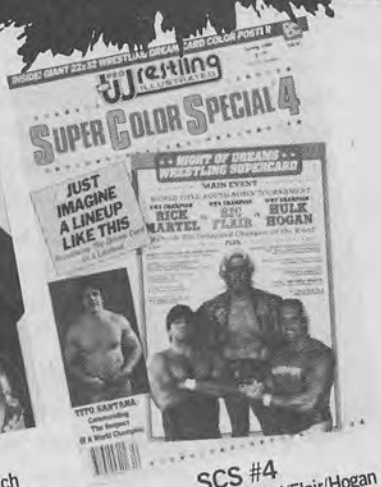

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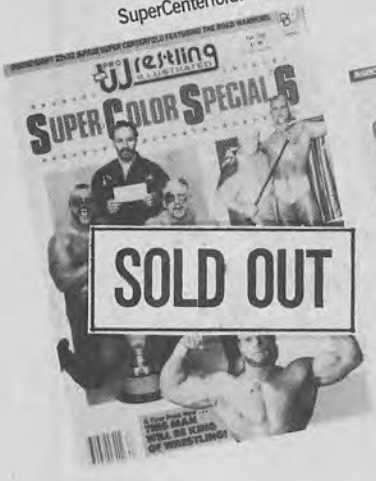

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SPECIAL SECTION

THE NWA'S NEW YORK INVASION!

NEW YORK CITY and Long Island had long been the WWF's private domain, but Jim Crockett Promotions changed all that on November 25, 1987, when the NWA ran its first-ever show at the Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, Long Island.

Over 13,000 people, some of them already avid NWA fans, others simply curious, witnessed one of the finest cards ever offered in the metropolitan area. They saw The Road Warriors defeat Ric Flair and Lex Luger in an outstanding 15-minute battle, and thrilled to perhaps the finest main event in Coliseum history: War Games IV, which ended when Dusty Rhodes forced Bobby Eaton to submit to a figure-four leglock.

It was an incredible debut that had tremendous bearing on the *business* of professional wrestling. The NWA proved it could draw in an area that had been dominated by the WWF for decades. In recent years, the WWF has only drawn large crowds at the Coliseum when Hulk Hogan appears; otherwise, the WWF plays to a half-full arena at best. The NWA hosted a large crowd for its first Nassau card (the Coliseum holds about 18,000 for wrestling)—and the World title wasn't even on the line.

Since then, the NWA has run two shows at the Coliseum. The January 24 card featured the finals of the Bunkhouse Stampede, broadcast nationwide on pay-per-view TV. For the third straight year, "The American Dream" Dusty Rhodes won the Stampede in a shocking upset by knocking Konga the Barbarian over the top of the steel cage. This was a brutal, bloody battle that thrilled the crowd and proved that Rhodes is, indeed, King of the Bunkhouse Stampede.

New York fans were also treated to an outstanding undercard. Ric Flair lost to Road Warrior Hawk by disqualification but retained his NWA World heavyweight championship. Larry Zbyszko won the Western States title from Barry Windham after Baby Doll hit Windham from outside the ring. And Sting teamed with Jim Garvin to defeat The Sheepherders by disqualification.

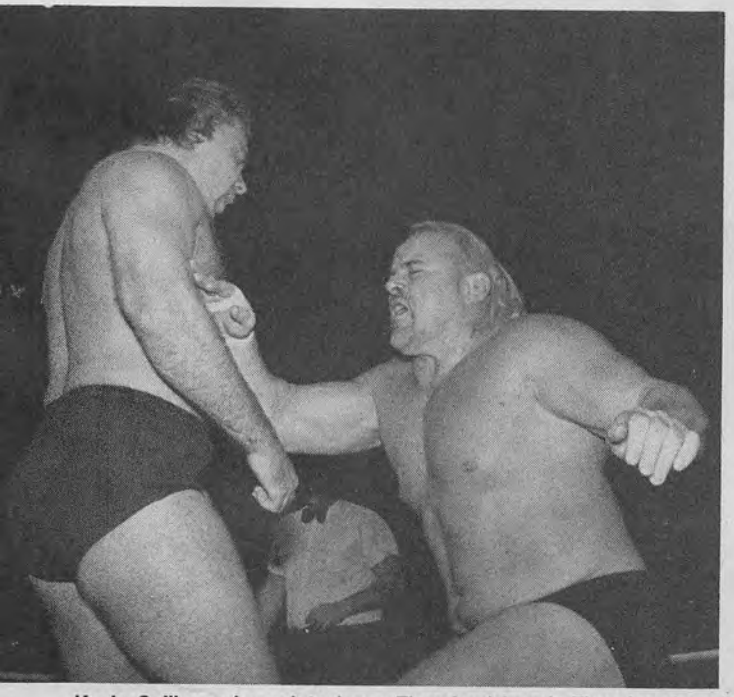
The NWA presented another outstanding card on February 21. Once again, the fans were treated to no-nonsense, hard-hitting NWA action as Rhodes and Luger defeated Flair and Tully Blanchard by disqualification and, in a thrilling co-main event, Paul Ellering and Hawk defeated Warlord and Barbarian in a $50,000 ladder match after an injured Animal charged the ring.

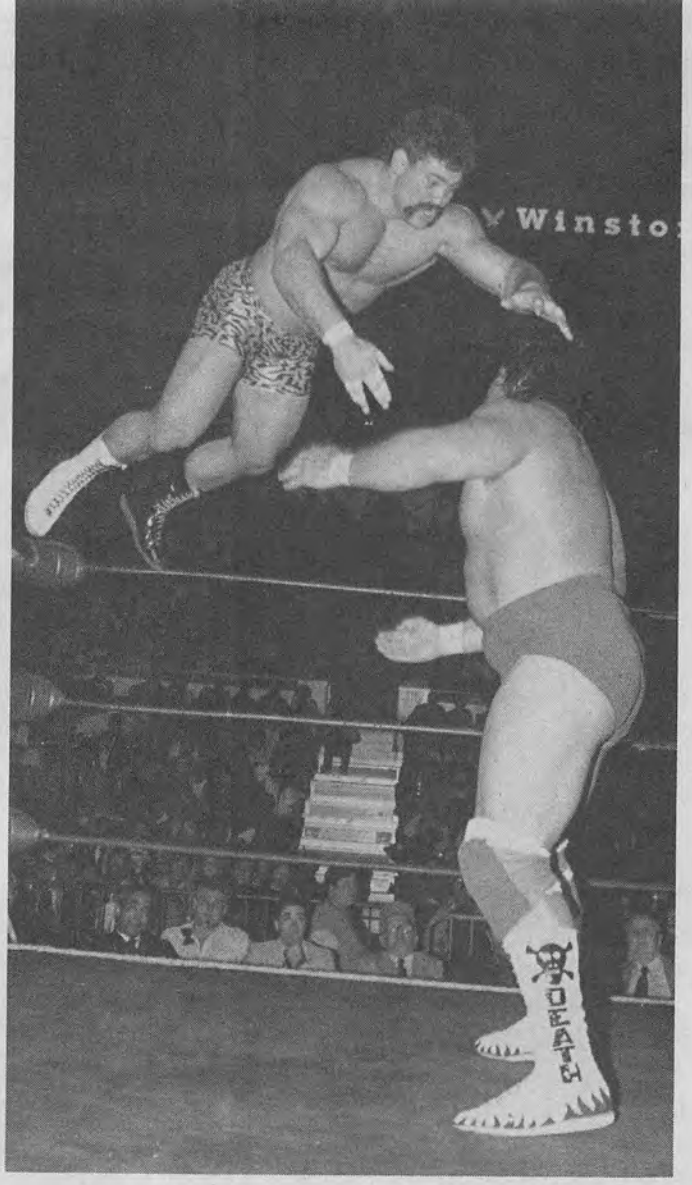
In all, the NWA's foray into New York has been a success. The editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* are proud to present this pictorial look at the NWA's New York invasion. It's been an unforgettable—and incredibly action-packed—three months!

On November 25, 1987, the NWA ran its first-ever show at Long Island's Nassau Coliseum. Since then, two more shows have been run, and in this special section *Sports Review Wrestling* is proud to present a pictorial look at the NWA's thrilling New York invasion!

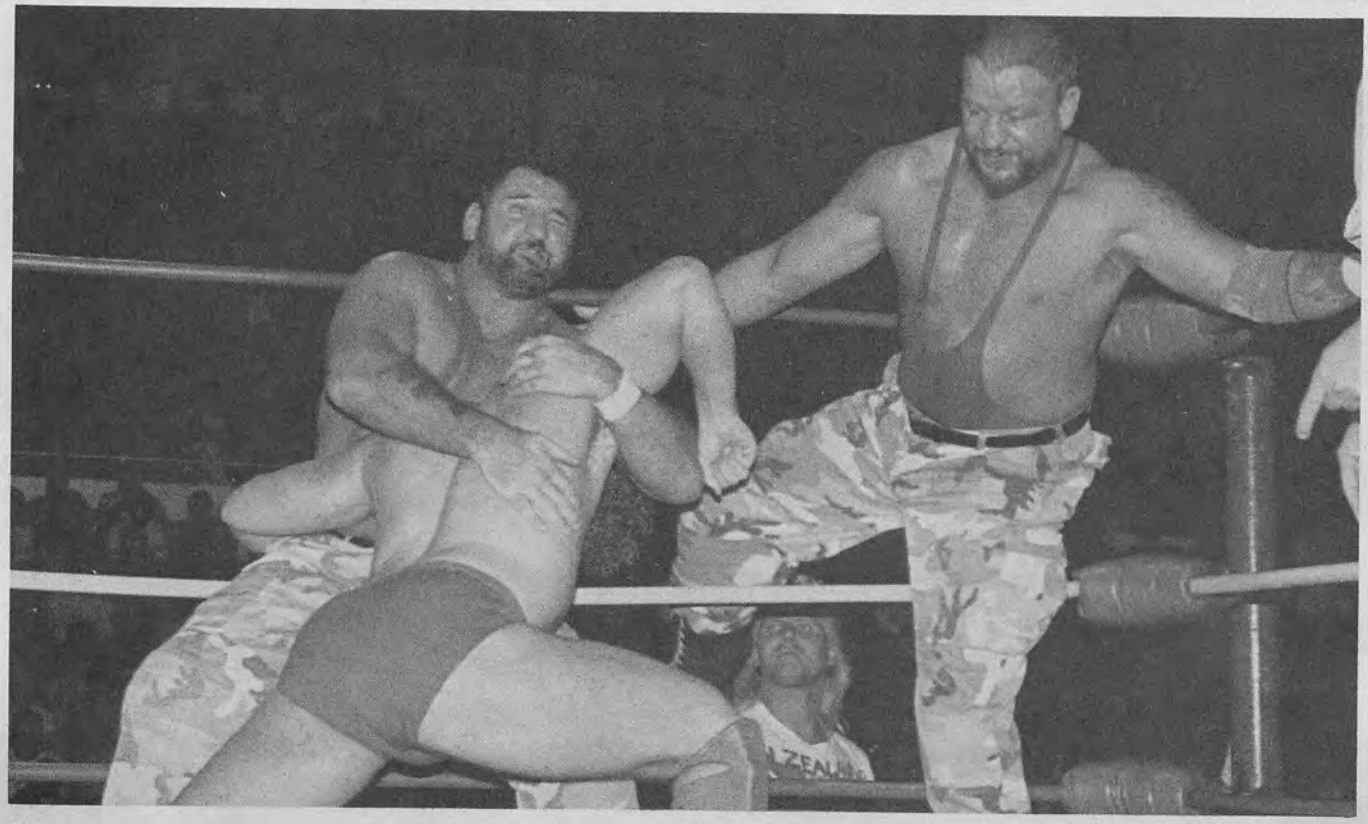
Photos by Roy London and Bill Apter

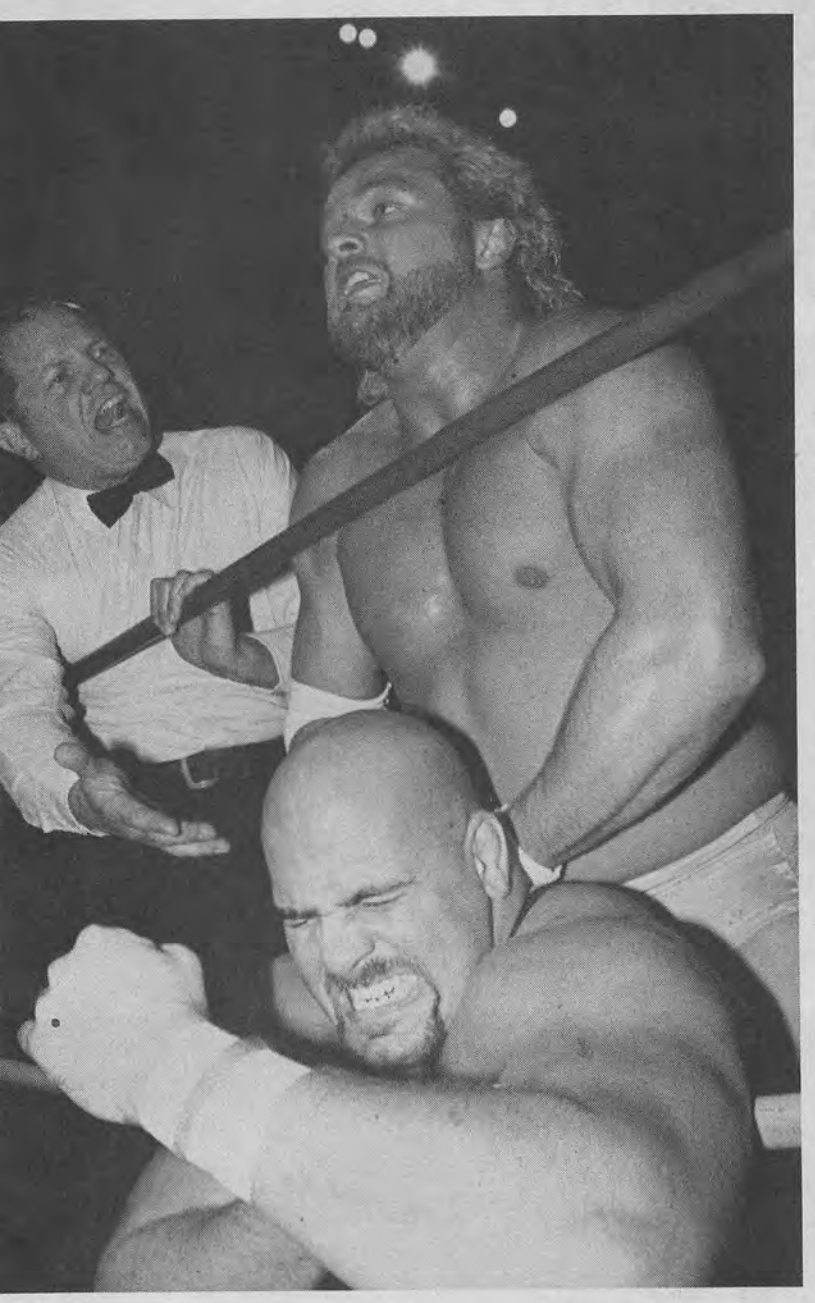
THE NWA'S NEW YORK INVASION NOVEMBER 1987



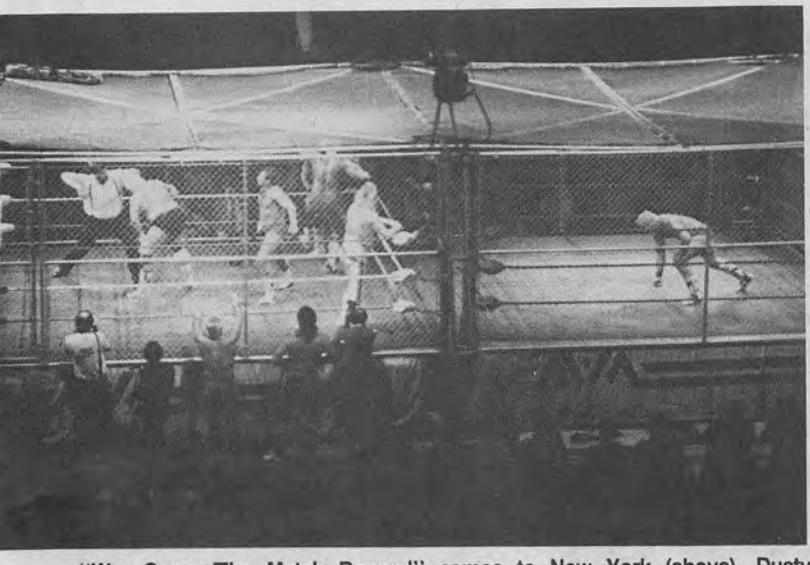


Kevin Sullivan chops into Larry Zbyszko (above); Zbyszko pinned Sullivan, thanks to Baby Doll's distractions. Rick Steiner dives at Steve Williams (right), who went on to gain the pinfall. The Sheepherders double-team Brad Armstrong (below); with the help of Johnny Ace, the Sheeps beat Armstrong and Tim Horner.



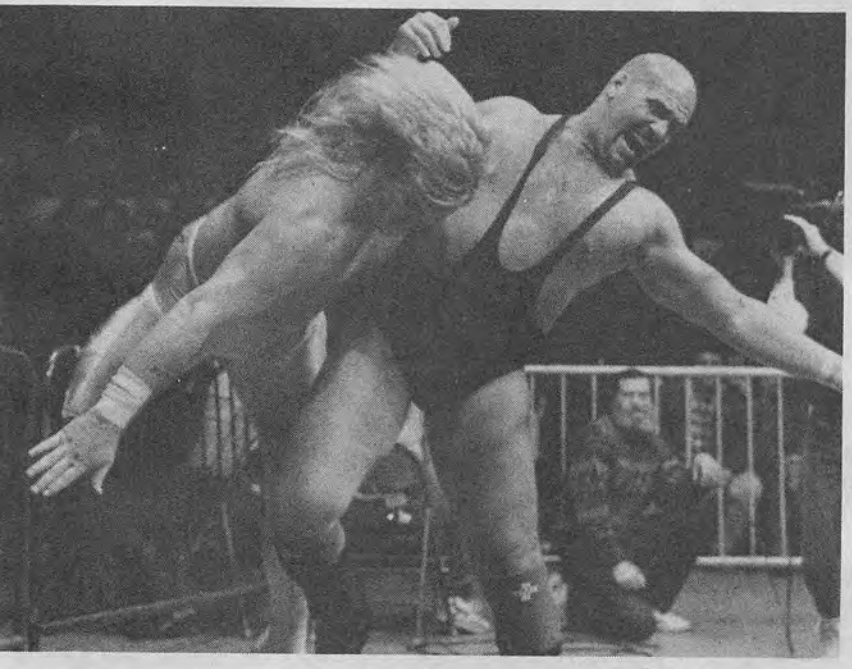


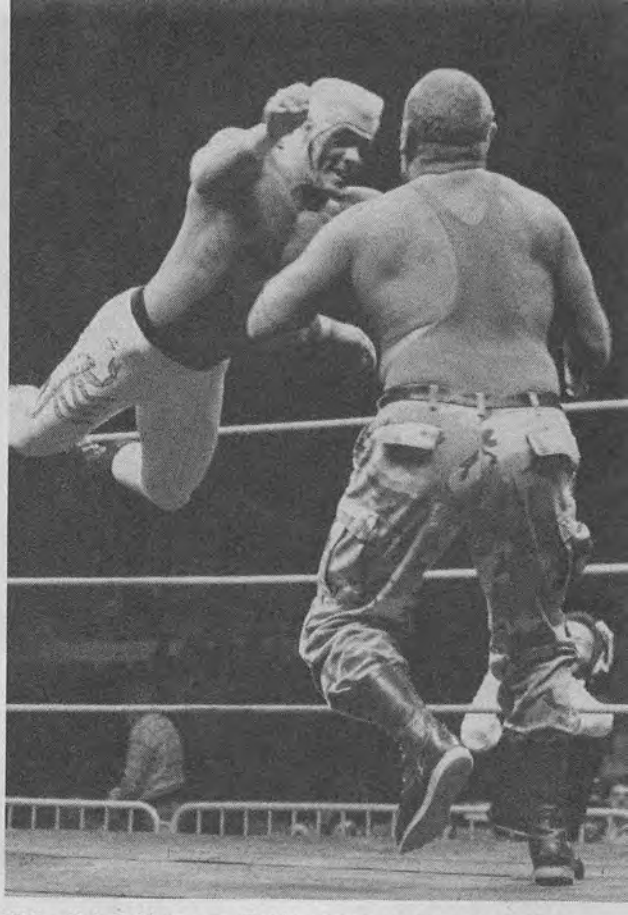
Eddie Gilbert chokes Nikita Koloff (left), who pinned him. Animal sends Ric Flair for a ride (above); The Road Warriors beat Flair and Lex Luger. The Barbarian slams Sting (below) as he and partner Terry Taylor battle to a draw with Sting and Ron Simmons.



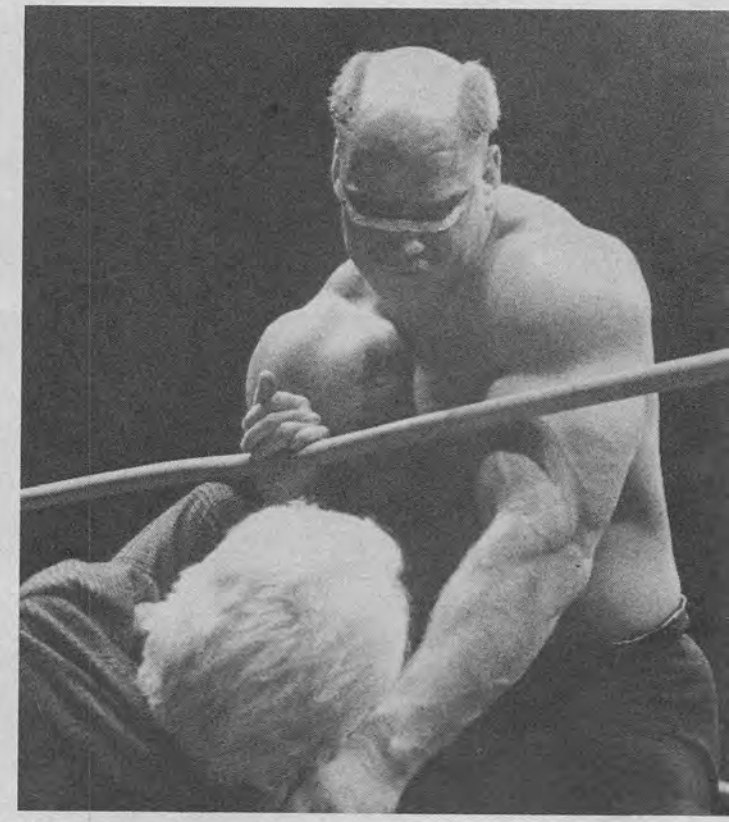
"War Games/The Match Beyond" comes to New York (above). Dusty Rhodes gives Bobby Eaton, Tully Blanchard, and Arn Anderson a sampling of his bionic elbow (right); Dusty's team won the big event.

THE NWA'S NEW YORK INVASION JANUARY 1988

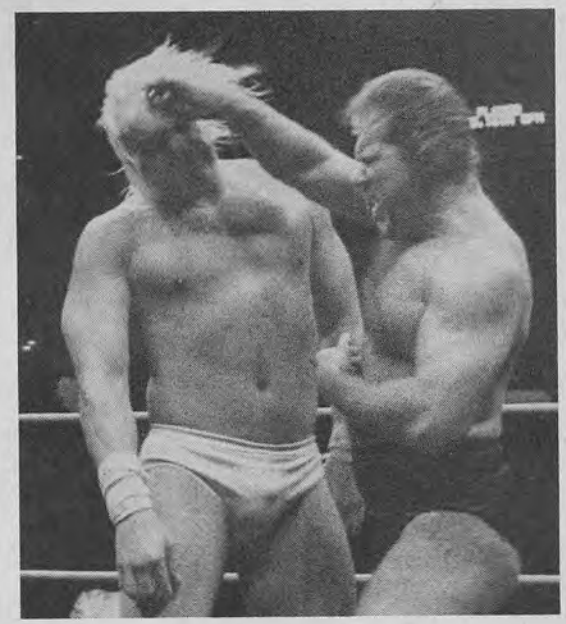




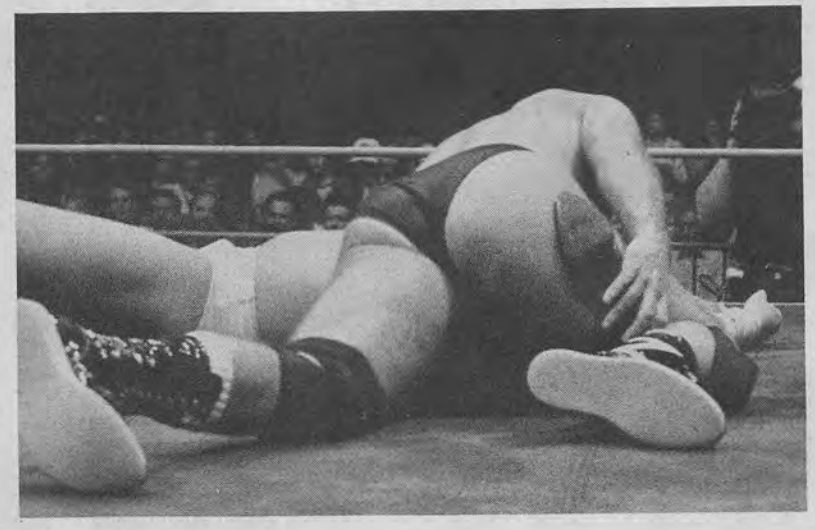
Nikita Koloff hiptosses Bobby Eaton to the arena floor (left); they wrestled to a draw. Sting throws himself into Luke Williams (above); Sting and Jim Garvin beat The Sheepherders by disqualification.

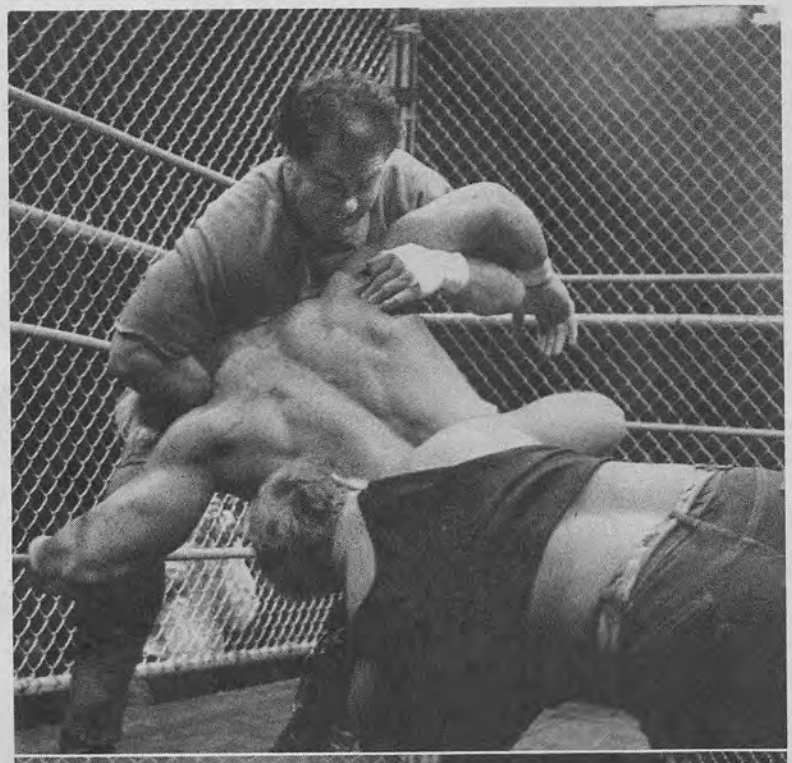


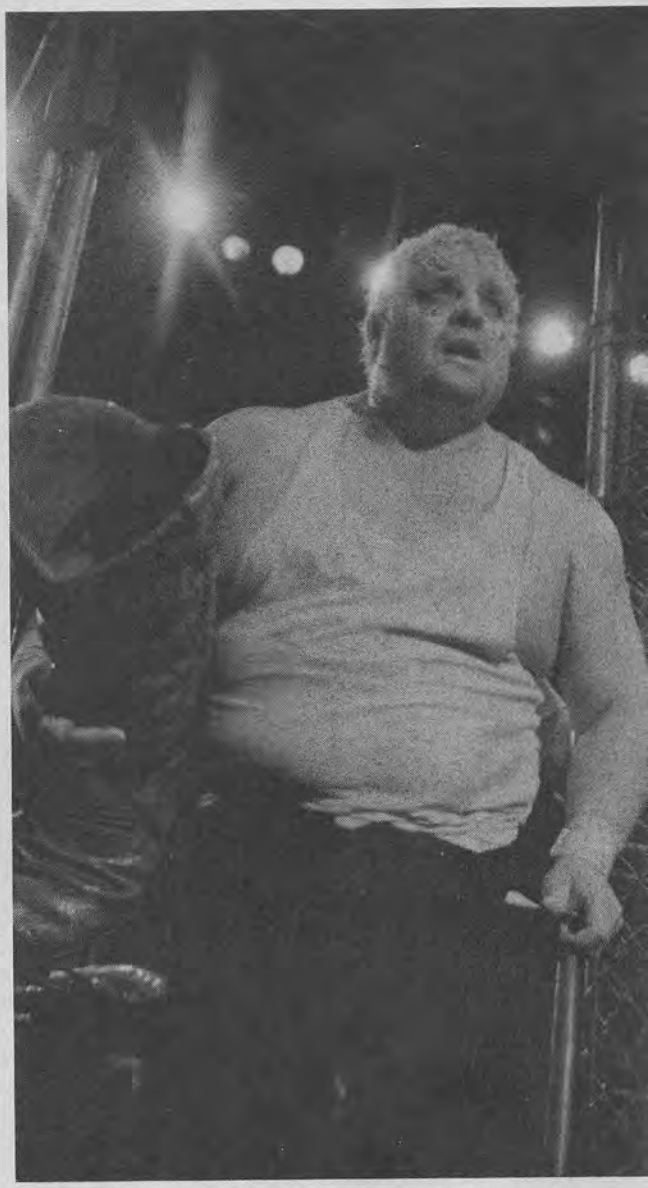
Ric Flair whacks Road Warrior Hawk with a chair during their NWA World title match (left); Flair was disqualified, but Hawk isn't satisfied as he drags J.J. Dillon into the ring for some added punishment (above).



Larry Zbyszko slugs Barry Windham with Baby Doll's shoe (left) and covers him for the pin, with the shoe clearly visible (below); the tainted victory gave Zbyszko the Western States championship.

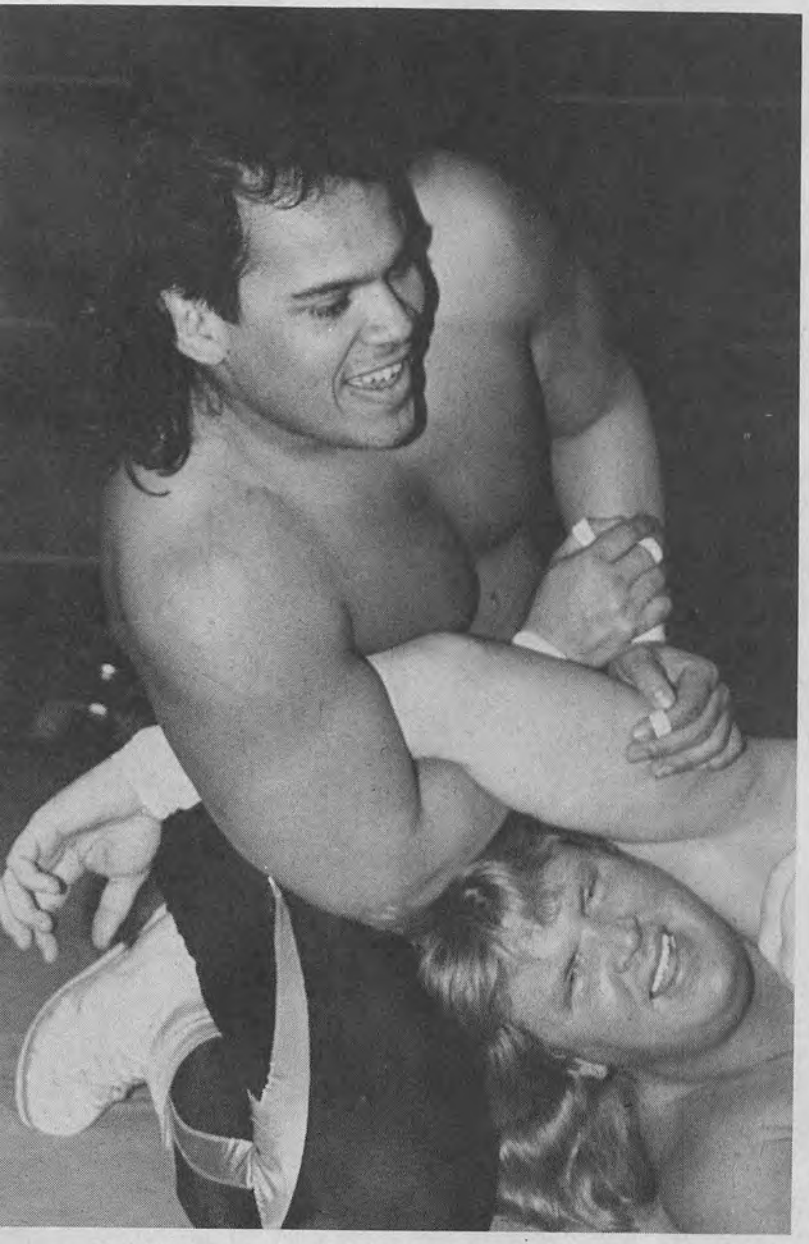


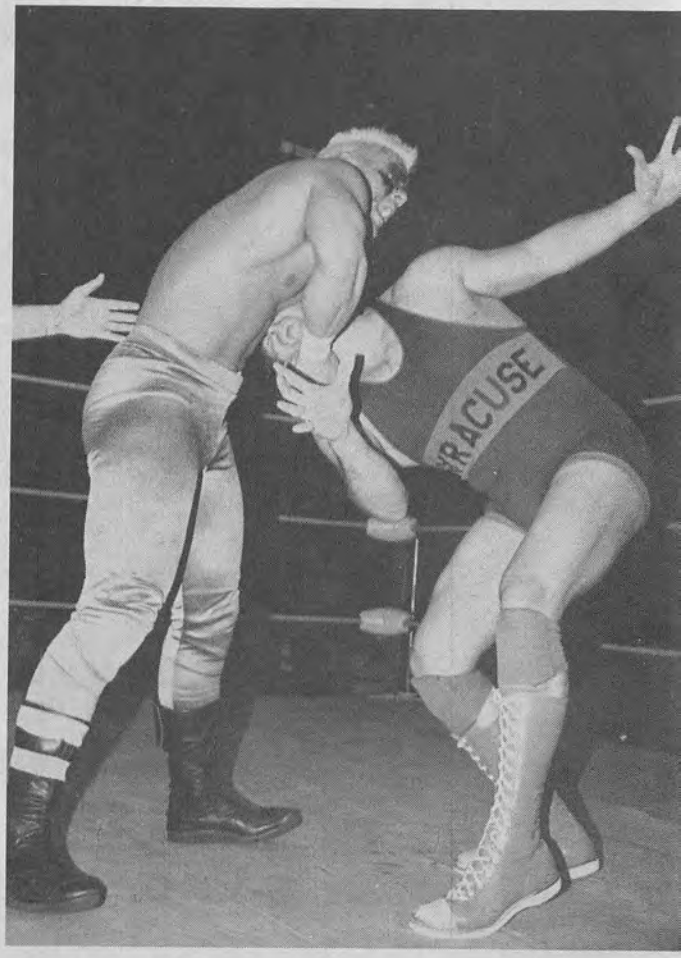




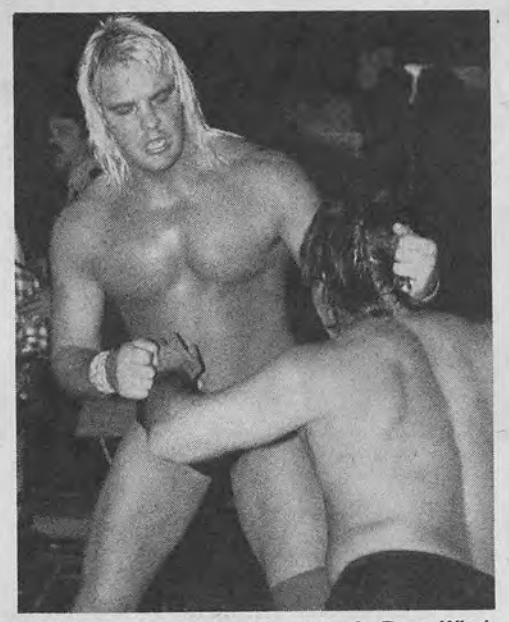
During the Bunkhouse Stampede final, Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson double-team Lex Luger (top left). Arn and Ivan Koloff go after Dusty Rhodes (left), who walks out the cage victorious (above).

THE NWA'S NEW YORK INVASION FEBRUARY 1988





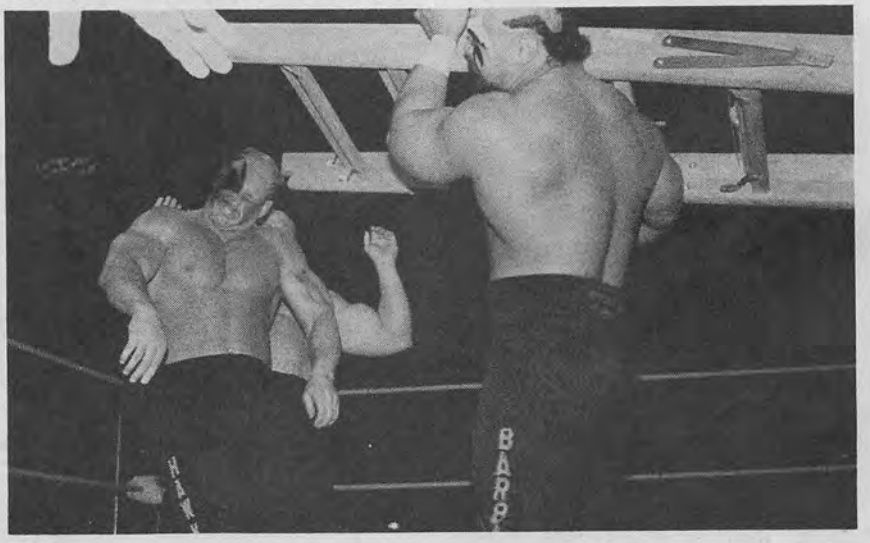
Ricky Santana armbars Bobby Eaton (above), whose experience gave him the pinfall victory. Linda Dallas flips U.S. women's champion Misty Blue by the hair (top right); Misty pinned the pesky Dallas. Sting twists Mike Rotundo's neck on his way to a draw (right).

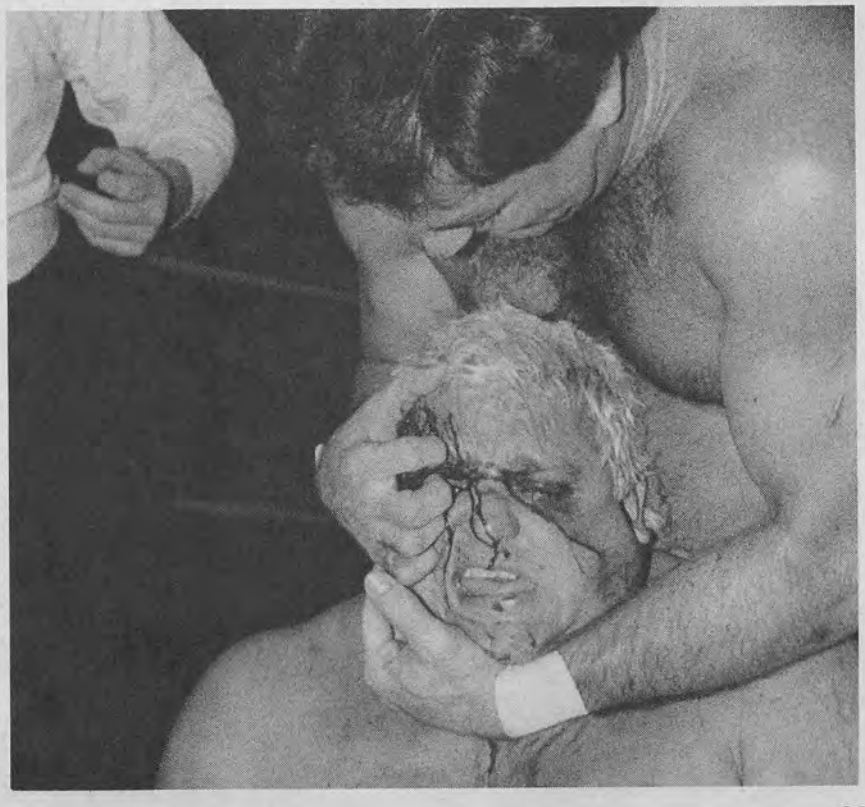


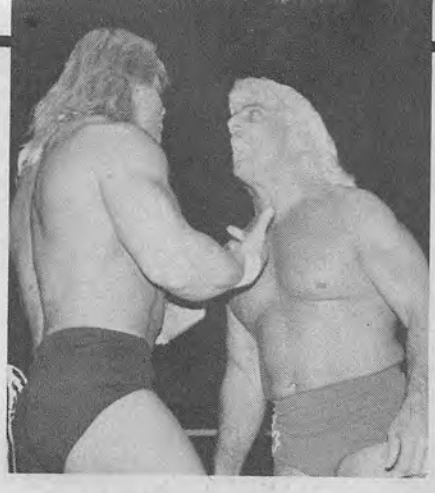
In their Western States title rematch, Barry Windham and Larry Zbyszko take the action to the floor (above). Barry won by countout, but not before dealing with Baby Doll (below).

Ric Flair whips Dusty Rhodes across the ring (above) and Tully Blanchard bloodies "The Dream" (right). Dusty and Lex Luger beat the Horsemen when J.J. Dillon hit Luger with his shoe.

The Barbarian executes a high elbowdrop on Road Warrior Hawk (above) and hits him with the ladder used to get to the money (below). Hawk and Paul Ellering won the $50,000 challenge match after the injured Animal charged the ring.

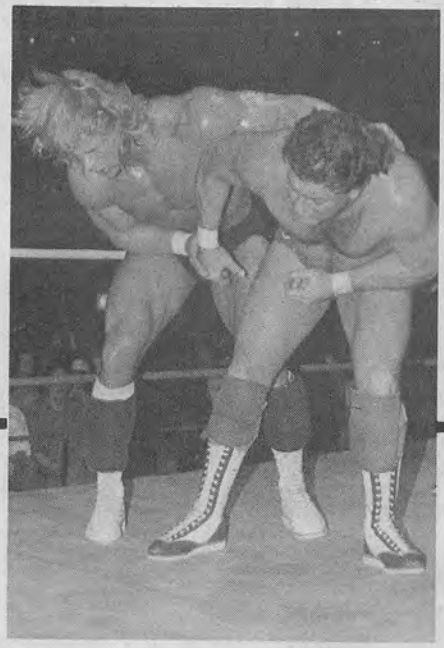




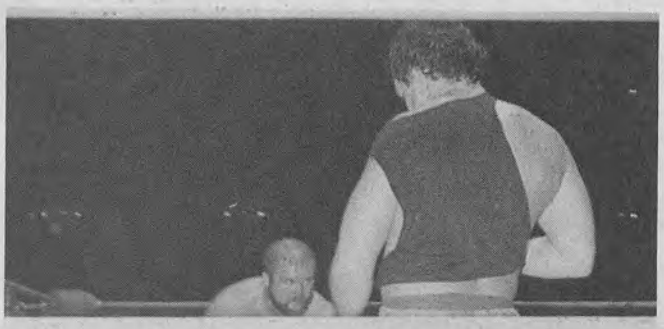


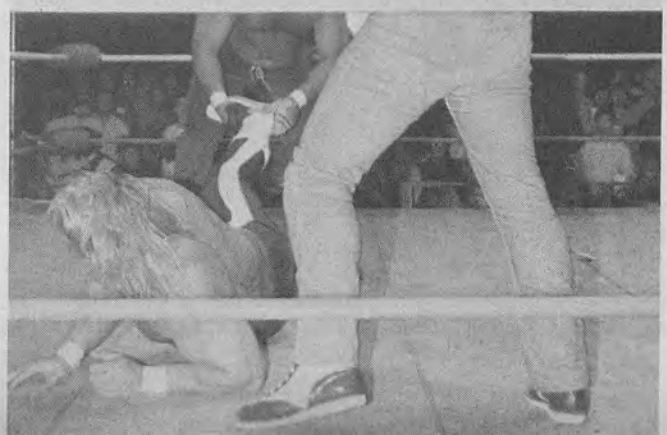
Memo To Lex

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME ON BLANCHARD—GET RIC FLAIR!



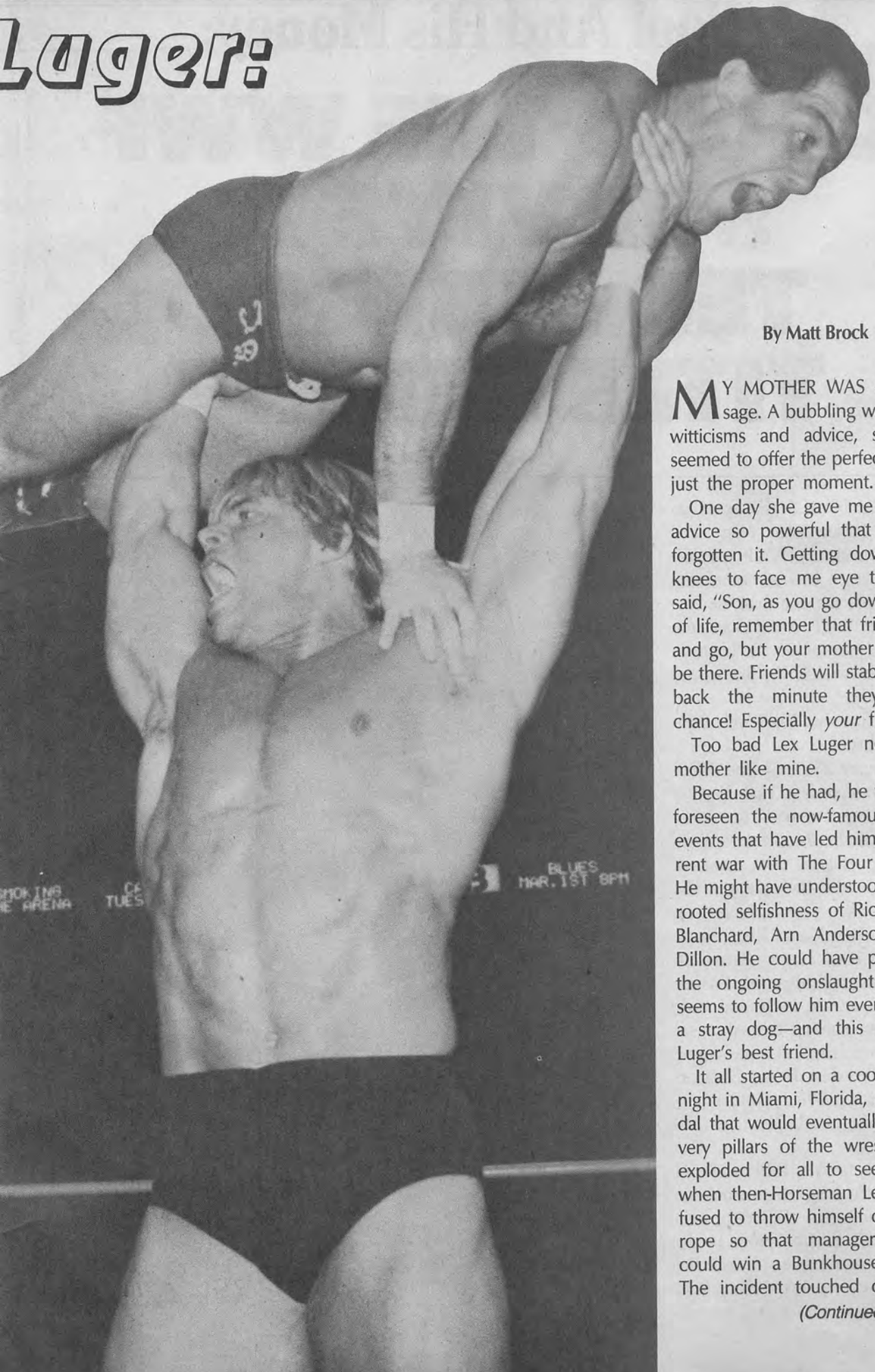
Blinded by his hunger for revenge, former Horseman Lex Luger is battling his ex-partners one by one. But Luger should take on Flair now—before the Horsemen wear him down and render him unable to *ever* defeat Ric Flair for the NWA World title!





Lex Luger wants Ric Flair in the ring alone (top), but Tully Blanchard remains an obstacle (top left). But even a Tully-Arn Anderson double-team (left) cannot stop Luger, who presses Tully over his head (right). If he doesn't get the Horsemen out of his way soon, Luger may lose his best chance to win Flair's NWA World title.

Luger:



By Matt Brock

MY MOTHER WAS a wise old sage. A bubbling wellspring of witticisms and advice, she always seemed to offer the perfect insight at just the proper moment.

One day she gave me a piece of advice so powerful that I've never forgotten it. Getting down on her knees to face me eye to eye, she said, "Son, as you go down the path of life, remember that friends come and go, but your mother will always be there. Friends will stab you in the back the minute they get the chance! Especially *your* friends . . ."

Too bad Lex Luger never had a mother like mine.

Because if he had, he would have foreseen the now-famous chain of events that have led him to his current war with The Four Horsemen. He might have understood the deep-rooted selfishness of Ric Flair, Tully Blanchard, Arn Anderson, and J.J. Dillon. He could have prepared for the ongoing onslaught that now seems to follow him everywhere like a stray dog—and this dog is *not* Luger's best friend.

It all started on a cool December night in Miami, Florida, as the scandal that would eventually shake the very pillars of the wrestling world exploded for all to see. That was when then-Horseman Lex Luger refused to throw himself over the top rope so that manager J.J. Dillon could win a Bunkhouse Stampede. The incident touched off a Luger-

(Continued on page 42)

A Fool And His Money:

COULD THE WWF SURVIVE A TED DIBIASE TITLE REIGN?

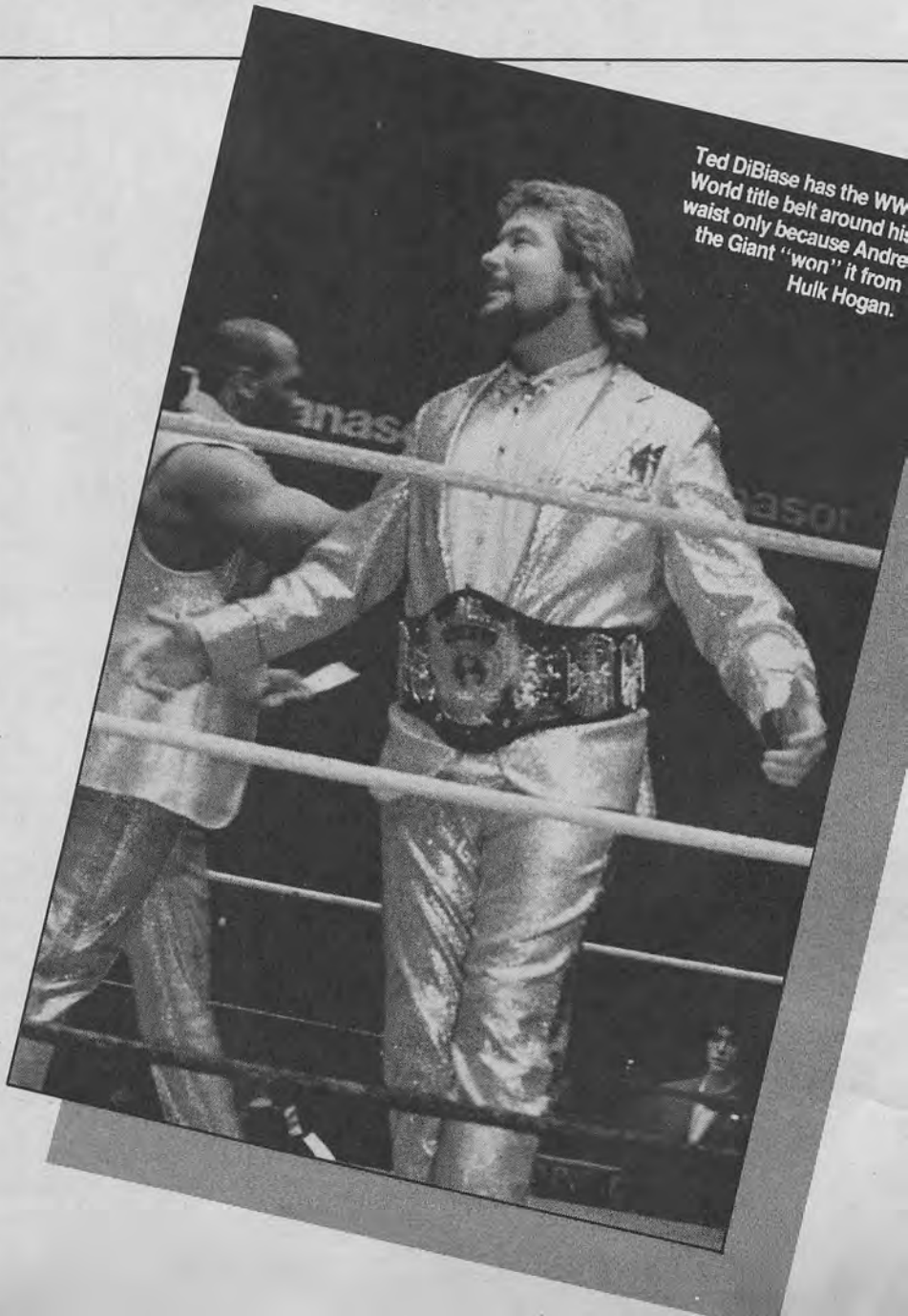
IF MONEY MAKES the world go around, "Million-Dollar Man" Ted DiBiase has made the WWF spin like a blender. Even if DiBiase never manages to capture the one thing he covets most—the WWF World championship—he *has* managed to stir things up like no other wrestler in the federation's history.

Now, imagine the WWF with DiBiase as champion!

Since January 23, 1984, the WWF belt has been securely in Hulk Hogan's grasp. After turning back the initial challenge of Andre the Giant at WrestleMania III, Hogan spent most of 1987 dealing with Harley Race, The Honky Tonk Man, Kamala, King Kong Bundy, One Man Gang, Killer Khan, and Samoan Sika. Hogan even managed to thwart challenges from DiBiase several times in late 1987 and early '88. The championship seemed as secure in Hogan's hands as it was during the mid-1960s when Bruno Sammartino owned the WWF crown.

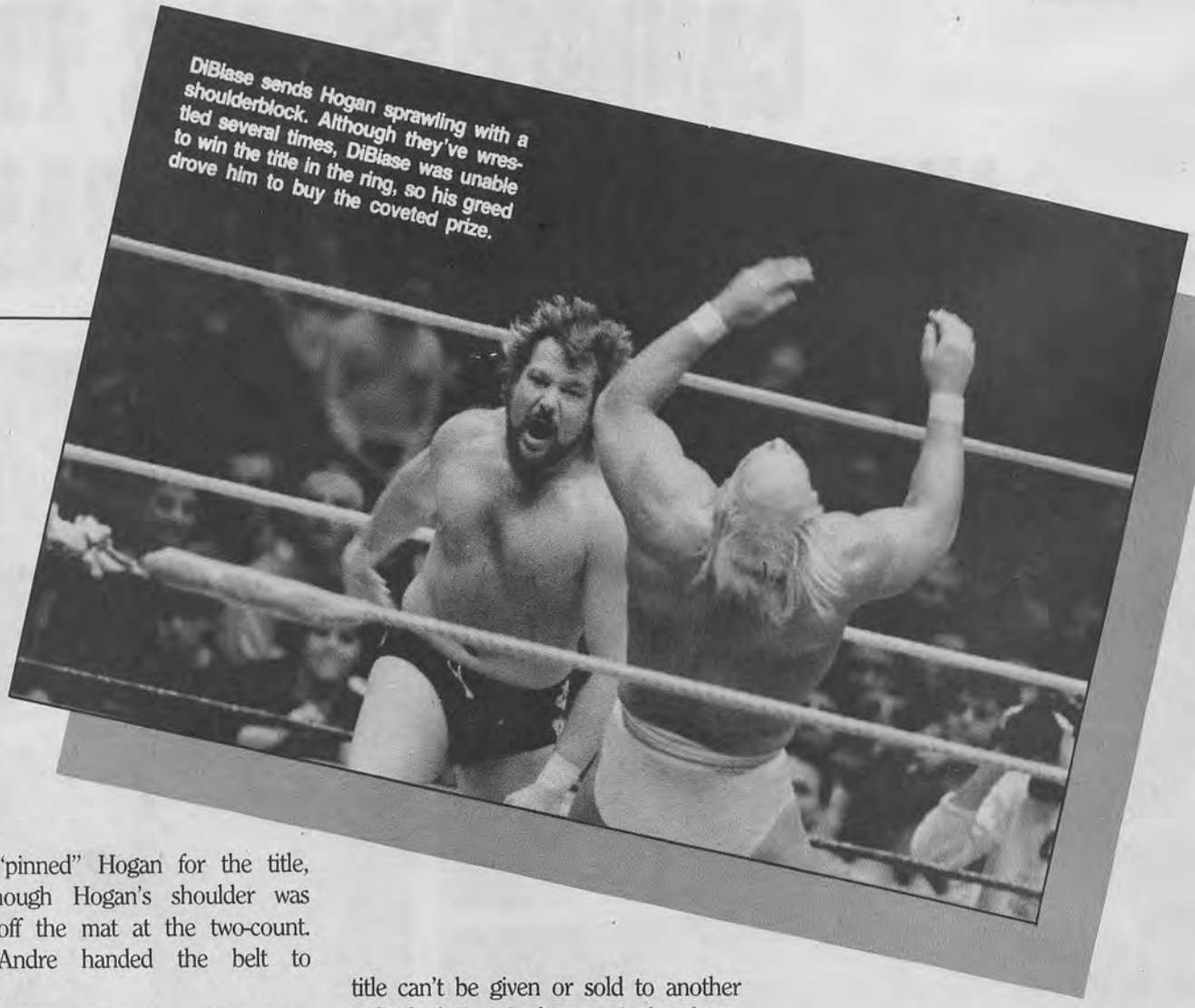
Then, thanks to DiBiase, all hell broke loose.

The story is familiar: DiBiase offered to buy the title from Hogan, but the champion refused. DiBiase then bought Andre's contract from Bobby Heenan, and Andre agreed to give the title to DiBiase if he should win it from Hogan. On February 5 in Indianapolis,



Ted DiBiase has the WW World title belt around his waist only because Andre the Giant "won" it from Hulk Hogan.

Ted DiBiase has caused havoc in the wrestling world with his scandalous attempts to purchase the WWF belt. Imagine the backlash if the "Million-Dollar Man" ever became champion! A DiBiase title reign could shake the very foundations of the sport!



DiBiase sends Hogan sprawling with a shoulderblock. Although they've wrestled several times, DiBiase was unable to win the title in the ring, so his greed drove him to buy the coveted prize.

Andre "pinned" Hogan for the title, even though Hogan's shoulder was clearly off the mat at the two-count. Then Andre handed the belt to DiBiase.

Suddenly, a dead-ringer for referee Dave Hebner appeared in the ring. Later, it became apparent that the man who worked the match was actually *Earl* Hebner, Dave's identical twin brother who had been paid off by DiBiase to slant the match in Andre's favor.

Incredibly, WWF President Jack Tunney allowed the decision to stand, but ruled the title vacant and ordered a championship tournament at WrestleMania IV. According to Tunney, DiBiase wasn't champion because the title can't be given or sold to another individual. But Andre wasn't the champion, either, because he vacated the title.

But imagine that all went well with DiBiase's wishes and he remained the WWF World champion. Could the federation withstand a title reign by the "Million-Dollar Man?"

"DiBiase gaining control of the belt would signal the death of the title's prestige," said *Sports Review Wrestling* Senior Editor Bill Apter, who has witnessed firsthand the full evolution of the championship, from Buddy Rogers to Bruno Sammartino through Bob Backlund and Hulk Hogan. "The championship has been tarnished enough with the Hebner fiasco. Imagine a champion who blatantly pays off referees, pays challengers not to wrestle their best in a title match, and makes fans come out of the audience to earn cash by kissing his feet! The credibility of the WWF would be thoroughly obliterated."

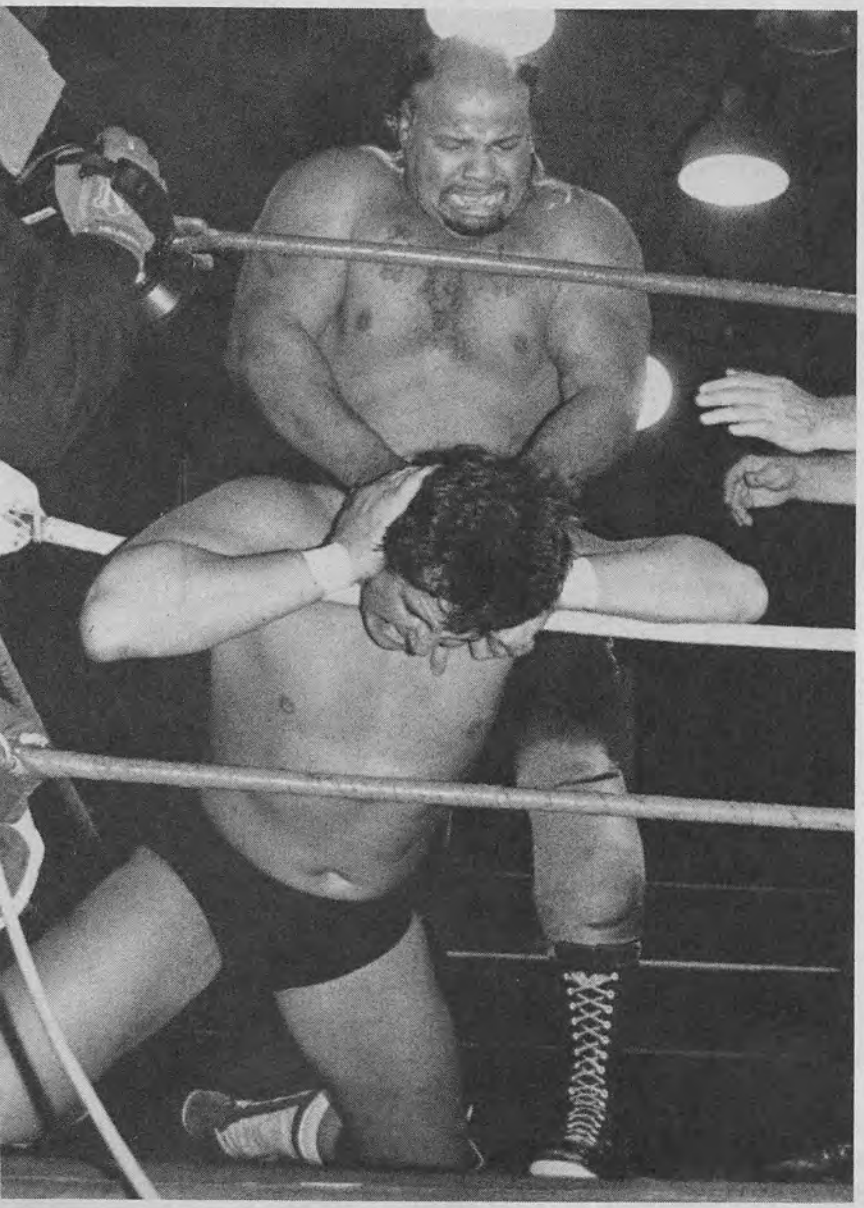
"Not only that, but title defenses

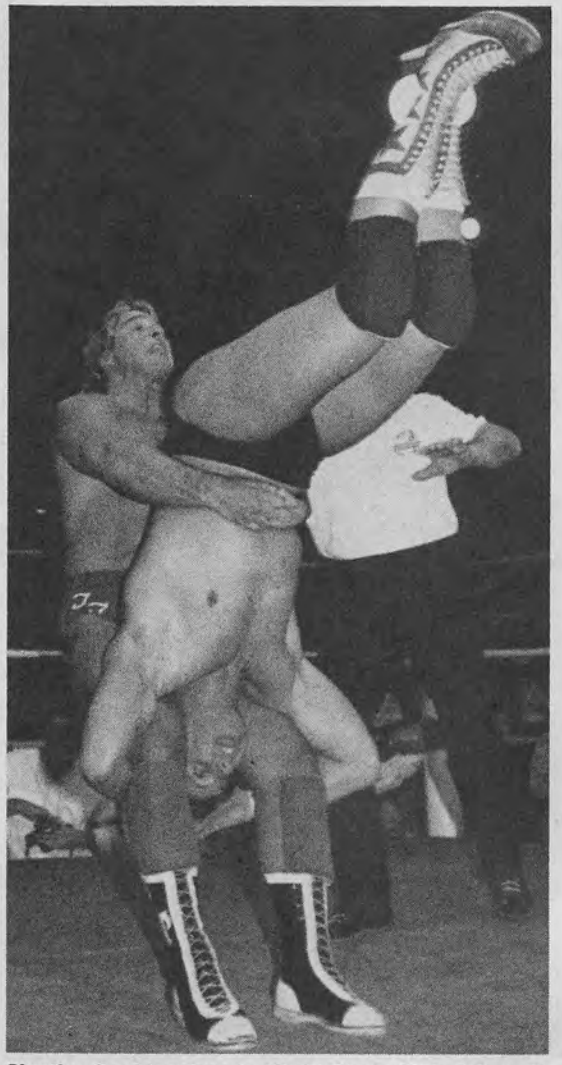
(Continued on page 56)

Photos by David Fitzgerald

The Return Of Yesterday's Agonies!

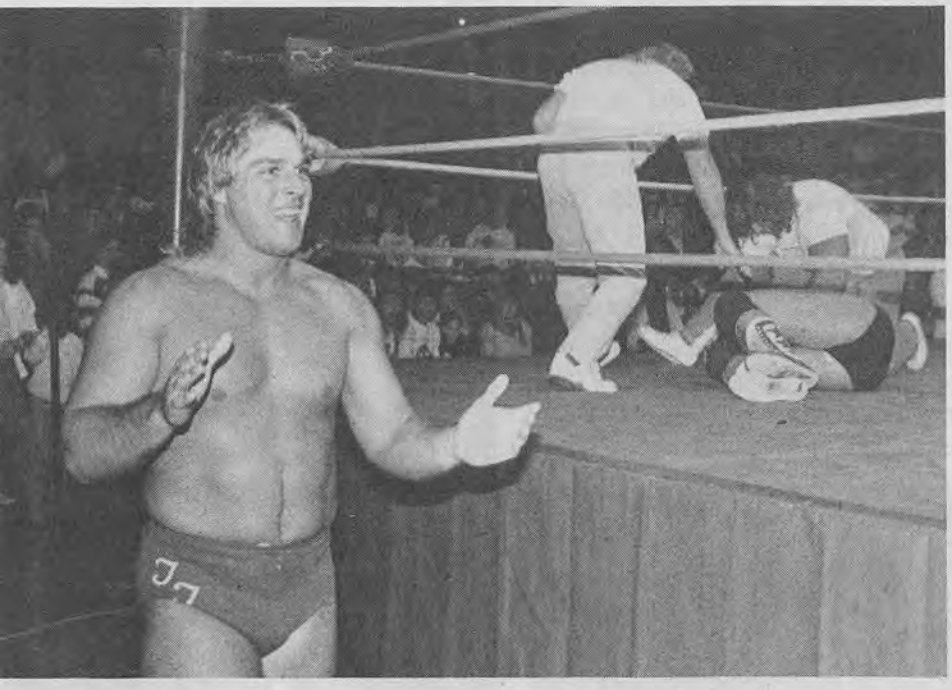
CHRIS ADAMS CANNOT ESCAPE THE NIGHTMARES OF HIS PAST

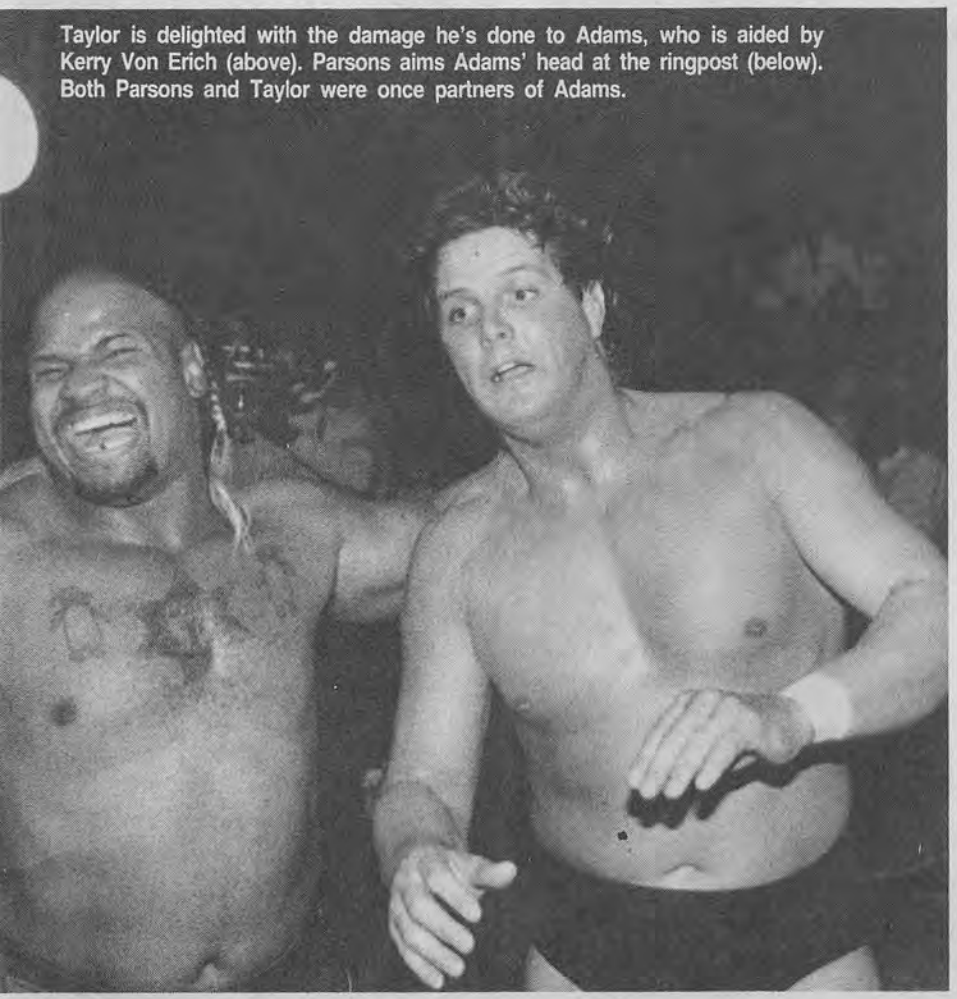




Shortly after his return to World Class, Chris Adams is choked by Iceman Parsons (left) and piledrived by Terry Taylor (above). These two old enemies have come back to haunt Adams and make it more difficult for him to win the World Class title.

"Gentleman" Chris Adams had a single goal: win the World Class heavyweight title from Al Perez. But the worst memories of his past came rushing back when the two biggest enemies of his career, Terry Taylor and Iceman Parsons, decided to make Adams' life miserable—again!





Taylor is delighted with the damage he's done to Adams, who is aided by Kerry Von Erich (above). Parsons aims Adams' head at the ringpost (below). Both Parsons and Taylor were once partners of Adams.

WHAT GOES AROUND comes around, especially where Chris Adams is concerned.

When the British wrestler made a triumphant return to the World Class area late last year, he appeared to be a man who was happy to shed the shackles of his past. He had just left behind a pair of violent feuds in the now-defunct Univeral Wrestling Federation and was returning to the scene of what probably was his greatest ring triumph.

"I'm here to regain the World Class championship," Adams said upon his arrival. "There's a new spirit in Texas, and I am proud to be back. My main goal now is to go after Al Perez. I wore that belt very proudly at one time, and I'd love to honor these great fans by winning it back once again."

After a short time Adams did receive several title shots—and fared quite well against the champion, though he failed to gain the all-important three-count. But like bad pennies, two infamous faces from the past have turned up to interrupt his title drive: Terry Taylor and Iceman Parsons have entered Adams' World Class domain, and his dream of concentrating solely on Perez quickly evaporated.

"This all seems totally unreal," said Adams from his home, nursing a broken left hand recently suffered as the result of an attack by Taylor. "Right when I seem to get some stability back into my career, it's hell all over again."

Reviewing the feuds involving these three men is like obtaining a videotape of "The UWF's Greatest Hits." The battles between Adams and Parsons and Taylor reached incredible heights of violence throughout 1987, and it all stemmed from the federation's tag team championship tournament late the previous year.

Photos by Buddy Myers

During that fateful tourney, Adams and Parsons, both respected scientific wrestlers at the time, were battling Steve Williams and Ted DiBiase. The latter team was attacked by wrestlers from the stable of Gen. Skandor Akbar, causing a countout victory for Adams and Parsons. Adams refused to accept what he felt was a hollow decision, but Parsons wanted the win. They flipped a coin to decide which of the two would continue in the tourney; Adams won, choosing Savannah Jack as his replacement partner.

None of this went down very well with Parsons, who took out his anger on Savannah Jack, attacking him before the tournament semifinals. Adams then chose Taylor as his *replacement* replacement partner, and the pair went on to win the tournament and the UWF tag team title.

But the Adams-Taylor combination was a tenuous one at best. Taylor showed up late for one important match, leaving Adams to fend for himself against two wrestlers. And when Taylor kicked Adams' foot off the bottom rope, causing the loss of the tag belts, a bitter feud appeared imminent.

A subsequent scientific encounter between the two turned out to be Taylor's farewell as a fan favorite. Adams had wrestled Taylor in purely scientific fashion, but Taylor took advantage of Adams' good nature to piledrive him on the concrete floor outside the ring, severely injuring Adams and setting off one of the bloodiest feuds of 1987.

Parsons chokes Adams with electrical wire (above) and kicks him in the head (top right). In 1987, Parsons and Adams were partners in the UWF tag team tournament, but split up after Adams refused to accept a tainted victory.

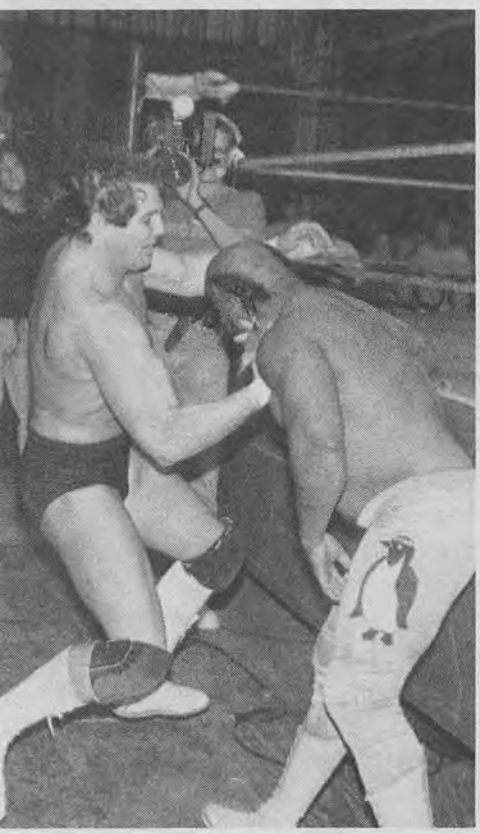
Meanwhile, Parsons badgered Adams throughout the UWF, and their matches were every bit as ugly as Adams' bouts with Taylor.

Now back in World Class, Adams finds himself surrounded by his enemies once again.

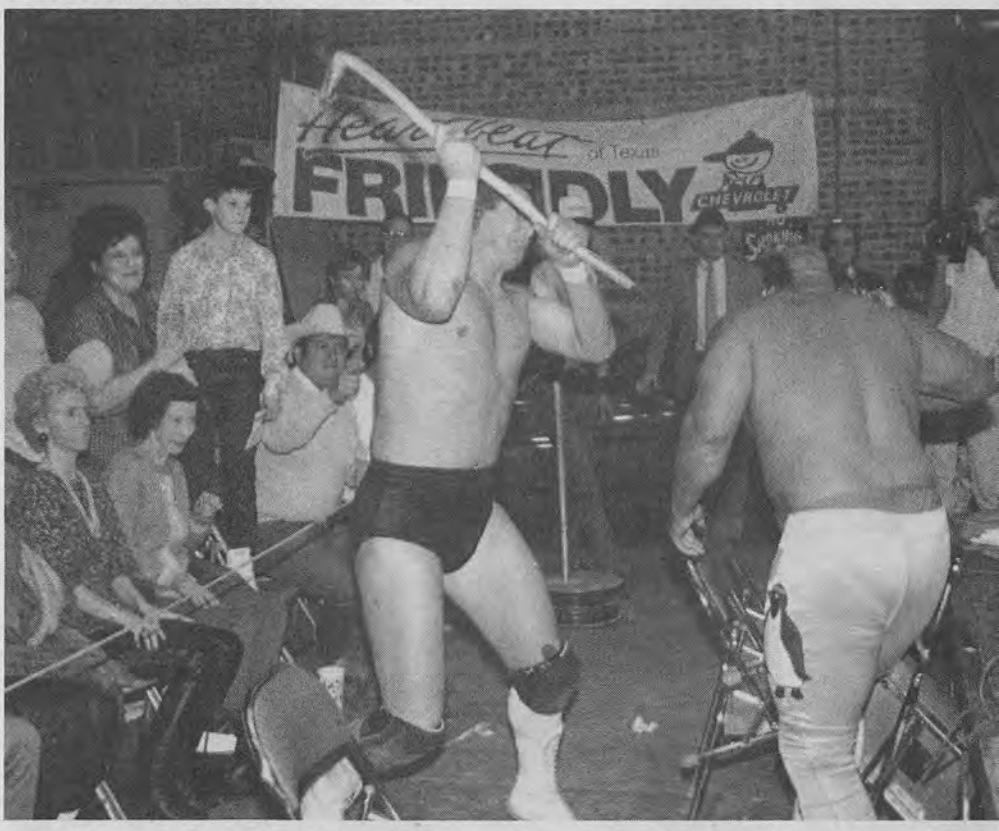
In a televised interview upon returning to World Class, Taylor duped announcer Mark Lowrance into thinking his evil ways were behind him.

"I want to let bygones be bygones," he insisted. "I hope I can talk to Chris right away so we can patch this whole thing up."

Lowrance seemed pleased that there would apparently be no resumption of the Adams-Taylor wars, but his hopes were squashed—along with Adams—the very next week at The Sportatorium in Dallas. Taylor stood in the ring preparing to take on Perez for the World Class title when Adams came to the ring wanting to know why a newcomer to the federation was granted an immediate title shot. Terry Gordy and Kerry Von Erich then came to the ring and a fight broke out. Taylor looked



Adams hits Parsons with an uppercut (top left) and bails out after a kick to the stomach (above). Forced to resort to illegal tactics, Adams whacks Parsons with a cane (below). Chris can no longer trust Parsons or Taylor.



like he would protect Adams during the melee, but instead he viciously piledrived Adams twice, resulting in Adams leaving the ring area with a broken left hand.

Adams was forced out of action for several weeks, and while he was away his enemies enjoyed success: Taylor defeated Matt Borne for the World Class Texas title, and Parsons was scoring big victories with various Freebird combinations. Through it all, Adams remained at home nursing his injury.

"When will it all end?" he said, trying to remain calm. "How far does that bloody Taylor have to go before he proves to the entire wrestling world that he can't be trusted? To this day, I can't believe I ever teamed with this arrogant swine. I can't sleep at night, even though I'm safe at home here."

Regarding Parsons, Adams was a bit less passionate, but angry nonetheless. "I'll defeat him soon enough," he said. "If Gordy and Roberts don't interfere, I can beat Iceman."

Adams is determined to push Parsons aside and end his renewed feud with Taylor as quickly as possible. "Taylor's caused me enough pain already," he said. "I have to forget my image and just go out and retire this man. It's my only option."

Adams cradled his injured left hand and stared blankly at the television screen. It was clear that he was prepared to resume, full-scale, his feuds with Parsons and Taylor—again.

"But this time," said Adams through clenched teeth, "it's gonna end *for good.*"

Somewhere lost in Adams' rage, though, is his desire to go after the World Class championship. Sad. □

LUGER

(Continued from page 35)

Luger crunches Flair with a powerful bearhug. The two battled several times during Luger's rookie year in Florida, but their budding feud ended suddenly when Luger joined the Horsemen. Now the war has resumed, but is Luger ready?

Horsemen feud that continues to this day as "The Total Package" takes aim at Blanchard, Anderson, and Flair.

Indeed, Luger has proclaimed that he will destroy The Four Horsemen one Horseman at a time. But he seems to be saving Flair and the NWA World title for last, and the more time he wastes in battle with Anderson and Blanchard, the more time Flair has to ready himself for their inevitable meeting.

Luger should strike quickly, thus allowing Flair less time to prepare for their bouts. During Luger's rookie year in Florida, he wrestled Flair many times, taking the NWA champion to a one-hour draw on a few occasions. Flair no doubt fears a more mature and more experienced Luger—a Luger who could more easily claim the NWA World title.

But I've got the nagging suspicion that Luger is walking into a trap. Everyone understands that if Luger is exhausted from campaigns against Anderson and Blanchard, he has little chance for any measure of success against the formidable Flair.

Everyone except a vengeful Luger, that is.

Throughout history, sports have been dominated by hard-working groups of athletes for whom perfection is an obsession. Baseball had its Murderer's Row. Football had The Steel Curtain. Basketball had The Twin Towers and hockey had a line known as The French Connection. These are well-oiled machines working in unison. Their goal? Only to be the best at what they do.

Wrestling's Four Horsemen are just such a group, and their amazing success speaks of a dedication to the mat sport unparalleled in the game's long history. But now that Luger has severed his relationship with the Horsemen and announced his plan to destroy the formidable foursome

(Continued on page 44)

Jealousy In The WWF:
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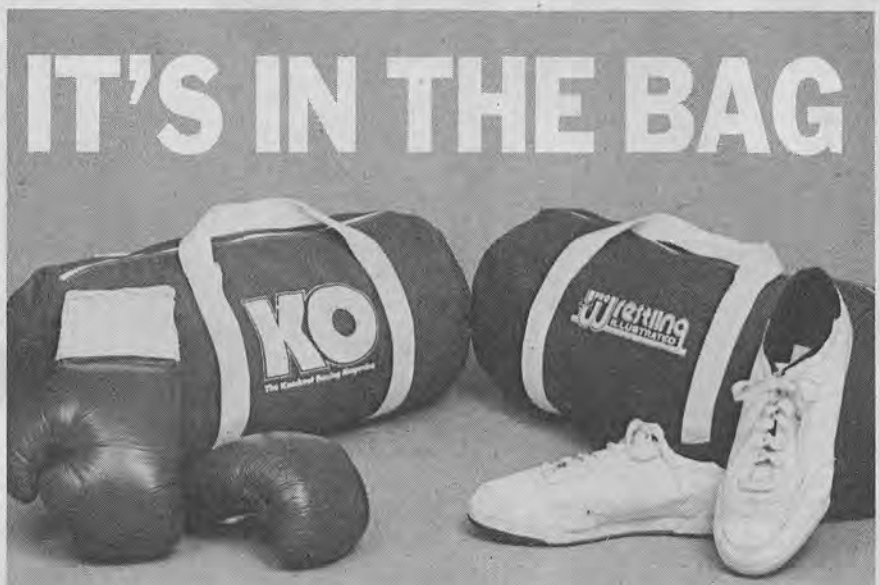

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LUGER

(Continued from page 42)

one by one, the Horsemen are gearing up for a new era of competition.

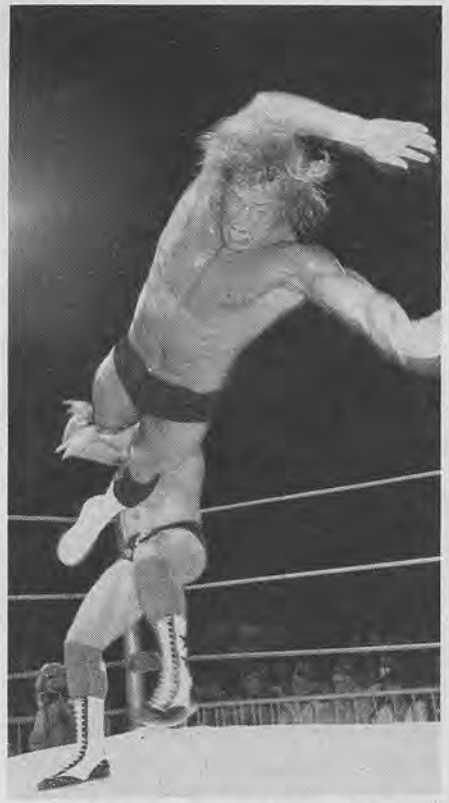
Their only goal now is to destroy Lex Luger.

In the process, the Horsemen have set up their customary wall of strength around Flair. Dillon's match contracts with Luger have "The Total Package" wrestling his singles matches against Tully and Arn. And Arn and Tully. But not against Ric Flair, and Luger—foolishly—isn't pressing the issue with the NWA. He's falling into the trap, blinded by his hatred for the Horsemen and his desires to destroy the Horsemen immediately at hand: Blanchard and Anderson.

Luger executes a backdrop on Tully, who is quite willing to be used by Flair.

Luger understands the surround-and-protect tactic well. While Luger was still a Horseman, it was generally believed that the 6'5", 268-pounder would be sent in against Flair's most dangerous challengers to soften them for future title defenses. At the time, Luger accused Dillon of being a "user" and claimed that the "all for one and one for all" motto of the Horsemen was "a tragic lie."

"The only thing the Horsemen ever did for me was prevent me from having my rightful title shots at



Anderson (hit with a Luger dropkick) says Luger has a lot to learn before he can seriously challenge Flair's dominance.

Flair," Luger says. "Now that title shot will be mine—once I teach Anderson and Blanchard a lesson."

Arn and Tully view things differently.

"Luger says he's going to teach us a lesson?" Anderson sneers. "Ha! We'll ring his schoolbell!"

Blanchard concurs: "Luger'll be long gone before he gets a shot at Flair, we'll see to that! And, I might add, a Luger who's wrestled me and Arn poses very little threat to a man like Ric Flair."

But the boasting and the posing are all part of the Horseman plan. And Luger is falling for it. He's being baited by Tully and Arn, and he's snapping at the bait like a hungry trout. Meanwhile, Flair sits in the background, allowing his "fellow Horsemen" to do his dirty work for him, secure in the belief that even if Luger blasts through the Anderson-Blanchard front line, it will be an exhaused "Total Package" that challenges for the NWA World belt.

Time for an end run, Lex. Forget Tully and Arn and go right for Flair—before it's too late! □

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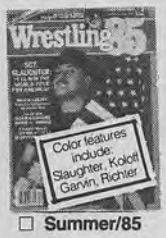

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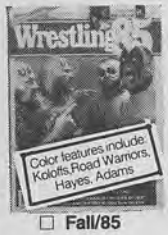

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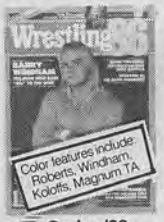

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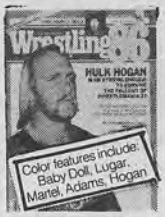

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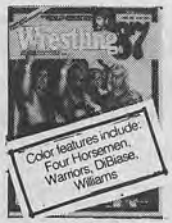

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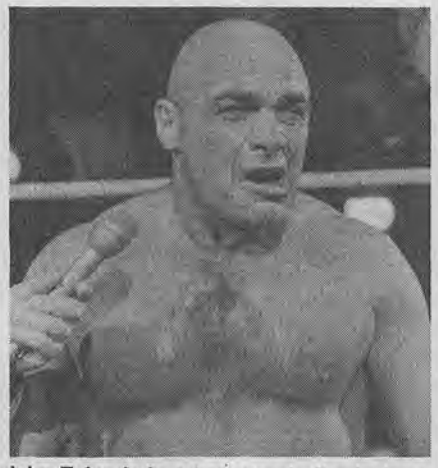
SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from page 12)

MAY/JUNE 1973

Harley Race won the NWA World championship from Dory Funk Jr., two falls to one, on May 24 in Kansas City. Funk held the title for more than three years after defeating Gene Kiniski in Tampa, Florida ... Six days later Race made his first title defense, and he couldn't have selected a tougher opponent: former WWF champion Bruno Sammartino. Race appeared to have submitted to Bruno's bear-hug, but it was officially ruled that the time limit had expired ... Pedro Morales made successful WWF title defenses against Don Leo Jonathan, George Steele, Mike McCord, Mr. Fuji, and Fred Blassie ... Haystacks Calhoun and Tony Garea upset Prof. Toru Tanaka and Mr. Fuji to win the WWF tag team championship. Calhoun and Garea kept their Japanese opponents off balance with their contrasting wrestling styles; there was a 360-pound difference in weight between the champions ... Bobo Brazil defeated Fred Blassie in a thrilling cage match in the Boston Garden in which Haystacks Calhoun served as special referee ... Victor Rivera suffered a concussion and a major loss of blood in an American title defense against John Tolos that

Harley Race chops Dory Funk Jr. during the match in which Race won the NWA World title for the first of seven times. Race's win ended Funk's three-year NWA reign.



John Tolos is in a bad mood after losing a hair vs. hair match to Victor Rivera in Los Angeles in 1973.

Los Angeles fans had anticipated would be a classic scientific contest. Both men agreed that if the loser had broken any rules during the match, he would allow his head to be shaven. Tolos, the loser, had broken some rules, and he allowed ring announcer Jimmy Lennon to clip his hair. After Lennon completed the job, Tolos congratulated the winner—and then attacked Rivera with a chair! Rivera, bleeding from the mouth and convulsing, was carried from the ring on a stretcher ... Pat Patterson retained his U.S. championship with a victory over Ray Stevens before 13,785 fans at the San Francisco Cow Palace ... Dr. Jerry Graham returned to action in the Ohio area ... Mike Graham simultaneously held portions of the Florida and Georgia tag team titles. In Florida, Mike held the title with Kevin Sullivan, while in Georgia he shared the honors with his dad, Eddie ... On Chicago TV, Moose Cholak and Jimmy Valiant engaged in a weight-lifting challenge with $1,000 promised to the winner. After matching each other on several lifts, Valiant was the first to fail. But when Cholak attempted his lift for the victory, Jimmy slammed a 75-pound weight across the back of his head ... German champion Horst Hoffmann came to the United States for a title match with AWA World champion Verne Gagne. Hoffmann had held Gagne to a draw during a 1972 match in Germany ... NWA RATINGS: 1—Harley Race; 2—Dory Funk Jr.; 3—Bruno Sammartino; 4—The Sheik; 5—Jack Brisco; 6—Terry Funk; 7—Pat Patterson; 8—Buddy Colt; 9—Gene Kiniski; 10—Bobo Brazil. AWA RATINGS: 1—Verne Gagne; 2—Billy Robinson; 3—Superstar Graham; 4—Dick the Bruiser; 5—Wahoo McDaniel; 6—Crusher; 7—Horst Hoffmann; 8—Nick Bockwinkel; 9—Ken Patera; 10—Don Muraco. WWF RATINGS: 1—Pedro Morales; 2—Bruno Sammartino; 3—Chief Jay Strongbow; 4—Don Leo Jonathan; 5—Blackjack Lanza; 6—Haystacks Calhoun; 7—Fred Blassie; 8—Moondog Mayne; 9—Tony Garea; 10—Mike McCord. TAG TEAMS: 1—Haystacks Calhoun & Tony Garea; 2—Pat Patterson & Rocky Johnson; 3—Goliath & Black Gordman; 4—The Fabulous Kangaroos; 5—Ray Stevens & Nick Bockwinkel; 6—Prof. Tanaka & Mr. Fuji; 7—Dusty Rhodes & Dick Murdoch; 8—Mike & Eddie Graham; 9—Mike Graham & Kevin Sullivan; 10—Luis Martinez & Fred Curry.

MAY/JUNE 1978

Paul Jones and Rick Steamboat won an elimination tournament to crown new NWA World tag team champions ... The Yukon Lumberjacks, managed by Capt. Lou Albano, won the WWF tag team championship from Dominic DeNucci and Dino Bravo at New York's Madison Square Garden ... Blackjack Mulli-

(Continued on page 48)

BACK ISSUES OF PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

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June 1982/COLOR PINUP: Nick Bockwinkel. **Adonis & Ventura**, Snuka, Patera, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR PINUP: Dino Bravo. **Steamboat & Rich**, Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

October 1982/COLOR PINUP: Jerry Lawler. **Ric Flair**, Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

January 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ken Patera. **Rick Steamboat**, Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

February 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Putski. **Rhodes vs. Garvin**, Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

April 1983/COLOR PINUP: Superstar Graham. **Mil Mascaras**, Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

June 1983/COLOR PINUP: Cowboy Bob Orton. **Rick Martel**, Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

July 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Koloff. **Tommy Rich**, Patera, Von Erich, Snuka.

August 1983/COLOR PINUP: Larry Zbyszko. **Roddy Piper**, Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

October 1983/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Tommy Rich**, Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

November 1983/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Harley Race**, Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR PINUP: Wahoo McDaniel. **Dusty Rhodes**, Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR PINUP: Harley Race. **Rick Martel**, Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

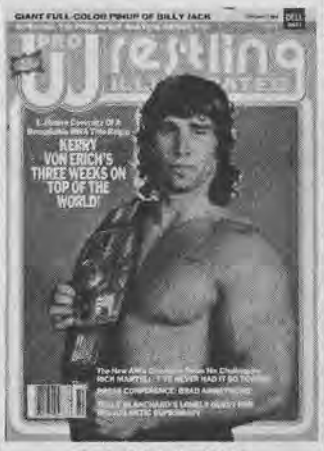
February 1984/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. **Greg Valentine**, Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

May 1984/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Butch Reed. **Hulk Hogan**, Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

June 1984/COLOR PINUP: Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase**, Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR PINUP: Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant**, JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR PINUP: Stan Hansen. **Jerry Lawler**, Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.



OCTOBER 1984

October 1984/COLOR PINUP: Billy Jack. **Kerry Von Erich**, Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Sgt. Slaughter**, Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

January 1985/COLOR PINUP: Tito Santana. **Road Warriors**, Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR PINUP: Magnum T.A. **Rick Martel**, Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

April 1985/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin, **Jimmy Snuka**, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

June 1985/COLOR PINUP: Barry Windham. **Dusty Rhodes**, Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, T.A.

July 1985/COLOR PINUP: Sgt. Slaughter. **Hogan vs. Piper**, Warriors, One Man Gang, T.A., Martel.

September 1985/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A**, Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

October 1985/COLOR PINUP: Chris Adams. **Rick Steamboat**, Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

November 1985/COLOR PINUP: Randy Savage. **Ric Flair**, Slaughter, Steamboat, World Class scouting reports.

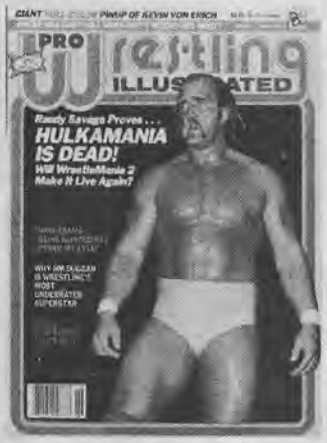
December 1985/COLOR PINUP: Jesse Ventura. **Great American Bash**, Von Erich, Orndorff, Williams & DiBiase.

January 1986/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. **Hulk Hogan**, T.A., Brody.

February 1986/COLOR PINUP: Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich**, Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.

April 1986/COLOR PINUP: Ric Flair. **Wendi Richter**, Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

May 1986/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steamboat. **Road Warriors**, Humongous, Bulldogs, Hansen vs. Martel.



JUNE 1986

June 1986/COLOR PINUP: Kevin Von Erich. **Hulk Hogan**, Adams, Duggan, Scott Hall.

July 1986/COLOR PINUP: King Kong Bundy. **R & R Express**, Hall and Hennig, Ventura, Warriors.

August 1986/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Randy Savage**, Lugar vs. Race, Blanchard vs. Flair, Rude.

October 1986/COLOR PINUP: John Studd. **Nikita Koloff**, Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

November 1986/COLOR PINUP: Baby Doll. **British Bulldogs**, Von Erich, Hansen, Gordy, Flair-Tully-Arn-Ole.

December 1986/COLOR PINUP: Great American Bash. **Great American Bash**, Midnight Rockers, Von Erich, Windham.

January 1987/COLOR PINUP: Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper**, Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

February 1987/COLOR PINUP: Savage & Elizabeth. **UWF Tournament**, T.A., Baby Doll, Hogan vs. Orndorff.

April 1987/COLOR PINUP: Lex Luger. **Dusty & Nikita**, DiBiase, DeBeers, Dingo, WWF Housecleaning.

May 1987/COLOR PINUP: Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan**, UWF Tourny, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

June 1987/COLOR PINUP: Hulk Hogan. **Magnum T.A.**, Can-Ams, Warriors, Freebirds, Hall.

July 1987/COLOR PINUP: Midnight Rockers. **Steamboat-Savage**, Luger, Duggan, Garvins, Sting.

August 1987/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Precious. **Hogan-Andre**, Warriors, Windham-Flair, Gordy, Bigelow.

October 1987/COLOR PINUP: Ted DiBiase. **Ric Flair**, Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

November 1987/COLOR PINUP: George Steele. **Nikita Koloff**, Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.

January 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase**, Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.

February 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin. **Randy Savage**, Garvin-Flair, Von Erichs, Freebirds.

April 1988/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger**, Flair-Garvin, Kerry, Survivor Series, Iron Sheik.

May 1988/COLOR PINUP: Sting. **Andre**, Valentine-Beefcake, Flair, Cornette, Owen Hart.

June 1988/COLOR PINUP: Tully Blanchard. **Hulk Hogan**, Muraco, Perez, Rockers, Bunkhouse Stampede.

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SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from page 46)

gan, wrestling in the Mid-Atlantic, found out for the first time the joys of having the fans' support . . . Georgia promoters were busy trying to sign a match that would pit Larry Hennig's "ax" against Stan Hansen's "lariat" . . . The war between Superstar Graham and Dusty Rhodes that began while Graham was still WWF champion went completely out of control. A referee in White Plains, New York, had to cut their match short when he determined that their actions were "threatening each other's careers" . . . Jimmy Snuka and Dutch Savage defeated Bull Ramos and The Iron Sheik in a cage match in Seattle, Washington . . . Bulldog Bob Brown won on a referee's stoppage in Kansas City, Missouri, after biting off a chunk of flesh from Gen. Skandor Akbar's forehead . . . AWA tag team champions Greg Gagne and Jim Brunzell were disqualified in a match against Bob Orton Jr. and

Greg Gagne puts the sleeper on Blackjack Lanza. In 1978, Gagne and Jim Brunzell defended their AWA World tag team championship against Lanza and Bob Orton.

Blackjack Lanza when Gagne jumped onto Lanza's knee from the top rope ... NWA champion Harley Race was taken to a one-hour draw by young Ron Fuller. Days later, Race was carved up by The Sheik, but still managed to retain his title ... Andre the Giant won his 1,000th match (without a loss), defeating the tough Killer Karl Krupp ... Ivan Putski returned to the Northeast, seeking a match with the hated Spiros Arion ... One of the few men to accomplish the feat, Dick Murdoch escaped the brainclaw of Baron Von Raschke ... NWA RATINGS: 1—Harley Race; 2—Dusty Rhodes; 3—Jack Brisco; 4—Ric Flair; 5—Dick Slater; 6—Stan Hansen; 7—Ken Patera; 8—Ivan Koloff; 9—Jerry Brisco; 10—Ron Fuller. AWA RATINGS: 1—Nick Bockwinkel; 2—Billy Robinson; 3—Crusher; 4—Ray Stevens; 5—Verne Gagne; 6—Pat Patterson; 7—Bob Orton Jr.; 8—Jim Brunzell; 9—Greg Gagne; 10—Rufus R. Jones. WWF RATINGS: 1—Bob Backlund; 2—George Steele; 3—Spiros Arion; 4—Superstar Graham; 5—Ken Patera; 6—Dusty Rhodes; 7—Ivan Putski; 8—Mil Mascaras; 9—Luke Graham; 10—Peter Maivia. TAG TEAMS: 1—Paul Jones & Rick Steamboat; 2—The Yukon Lumberjacks; 3—Greg Gagne & Jim Brunzell; 4—Ric Flair & Greg Valentine; 5—Mike Graham & Steve Keirn; 6—Dino Bravo & Dominic DeNucci; 7—Mr. Sato & Mr. Saito; 8—Jack & Jerry Brisco; 9—The Valiant Brothers; 10—Kevin Sullivan & Ken Lucas.

MAY/JUNE

1983

Harley Race captured the NWA World championship for the seventh and final time by defeating Ric Flair in a best-of-three-falls match in St. Louis, Missouri. With the bout even at one fall each, both men had their shoulders pinned to the mat

(Continued on page 50)

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SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from page 49)

Harley Race pounds Ric Flair. In 1983, Race won the NWA title for the seventh time, eclipsing Lou Thesz's record.

While they were AWA tag champs, Ken Patera and Crusher Blackwell were under the influence of Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie.

after Race backdropped Flair, but Race lifted his shoulder at the 2½-count ... Hulk Hogan traveled to Japan and defeated Antonio Inoki to win the International Wrestling Grand Prix tournament ... The Road Warriors burst onto the national wrestling scene by winning the National tag team title in Georgia ... Immediately after The Sheepherders won the Southwest tag team belts from The Masked Grapplers in Texas, Don Carson, manager of the Grapplers, purchased the new champions' contract. The Sheeps promptly turned against Carson in their first match under his management ... Kevin Sullivan and The Purple Haze challenged Eddie Graham to come out of retirement. "Get off your rocking chair, old man," Sullivan said, "and engage in combat with us." ... Soon after Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie purchased his contract from Bobby Heenan, Ken Patera teamed with Crusher Blackwell to win the AWA World tag team title from Greg Gagne and Jim Brunzell in Minneapolis ... Larry Zbyszko defeated Mr. Wrestling II in the final round of a tournament in Atlanta to win the Georgia title, but II won the belt two weeks later. However, the NWA didn't recognize the title switch because Rick Rude ran into the ring and made the three-count; he was not a sanctioned referee ... Canadian promoter Frank Tunney died in Japan ... The Mid-South "Rat Pack" of Ted DiBiase, Mr. Olympia, and King Kong Bundy vowed to eliminate Hacksaw Duggan and Butch Reed from wrestling ... Jack and Jerry Brisco quickly reverted to their rulebreaking ways after winning the NWA World tag team title from Rick Steamboat and Jay Youngblood in Greenville, South Carolina ... NWA RATINGS: 1—Harley Race; 2—Ric Flair; 3—Greg Valentine; 4—Larry Zbyszko; 5—Dory Funk Jr.; 6—Ron Bass; 7—Scott McGhee; 8—Mr. Wrestling II; 9—Dewey Robertson; 10—Bob Armstrong. AWA RATINGS: 1—Nick Bockwinkel; 2—Rick Martel; 3—Wahoo McDaniel; 4—Jerry Lawler; 5—Ken Patera; 6—Mad Dog Vachon; 7—Mr. Saito; 8—Baron Von Raschke; 9—Crusher Blackwell; 10—Jesse Ventura. WWF RATINGS: 1—Bob Backlund; 2—Sgt. Slaughter; 3—Magnificent Muraco; 4—Jimmy Snuka; 5—Ivan Koloff; 6—John Studd; 7—Rocky Johnson; 8—George Steele; 9—Ivan Putski; 10—Tito Santana. TAG TEAMS: 1—Jack & Jerry Brisco; 2—Ken Patera & Crusher Blackwell; 3—Bobby Duncum & King Kong Mosca; 4—The Road Warriors; 5—The Sheepherders; 6—Ted DiBiase & Mr. Olympia; 7—Kelly Kiniski & One Man Gang; 8—The Samoans; 9—The Von Erichs; 10—Rip Oliver & The Assassin. □

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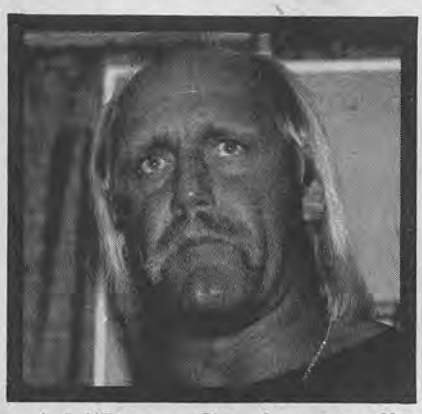

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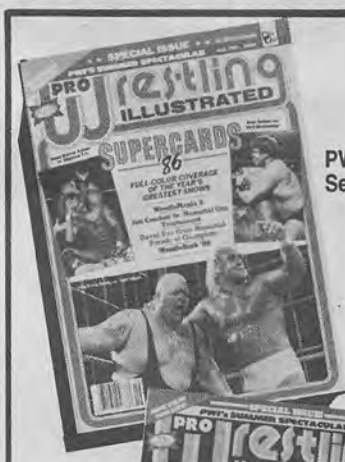

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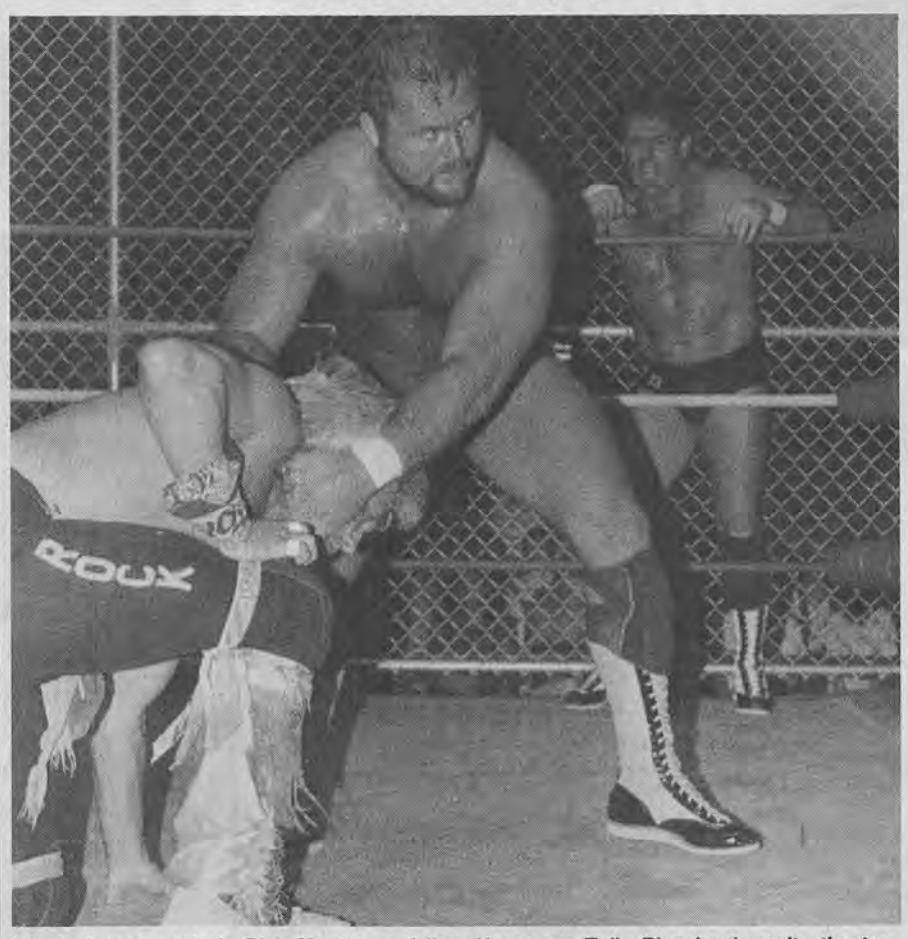
MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)



Arn Anderson controls Rick Morton as fellow Horseman Tully Blanchard awaits the tag. Reader Manny Richards believes that The Rock 'n' Roll Express left the NWA because they were afraid of Tully and Arn, the NWA World tag team champs.

'n' roll banter. I know I certainly am. If I had my "druthers," the Rock 'n' Rolls would be barred permanently until they change their ridiculous attitude. *That* would teach them a lesson.

MANNY RICHARDS
Tampa, FL

DUMB MATILDA

Absolutely the most ridiculous thing I've ever seen was the abduction of Matilda, The British Bulldogs' mascot. It made me sick to see two grown wrestlers nearly in tears over the abduction of a dog. I don't want to see "Timmy and Lassie." I want to see wrestling!

If that isn't ridiculous enough, the WWF had an address for fans to write and send get well wishes to a bulldog! C'mon, McMahon, concentrate on wrestling and forget this nonsense!

JEFF SIMPSON
Lenoir City, TN

ACE IN THE HOLE

You are to be complimented for your best wrestling interview ever ("Sports Review Interview" with Bob Orton Jr., April 1988). It was remarkable. Orton made a very resourceful move when he bolted the WWF to go to the AWA. Now he's reunited with his old ally Adrian Adonis, and I bet "Cowboy Bob" will take the AWA World heavyweight championship from Curt Hennig.

Bob had to go to the AWA because that's where all the he-men go, and the WWF was trying to bury him. First Roddy Piper stabs him in the back; then Adonis leaves for the greener pastures of the AWA; then Don Muraco doublecrosses him.

Then, thanks to Adonis, "Ace" came here to the major league of wrestling, the AWA. Next, I suggest Paul Orndorff take heed of Orton's decision

(Continued on page 54)

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July 1980/Bruno-Graham, Samoans, Star Wars 1980.

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March 1982/Valentine, Brisco-Funk, Steele, Flair, Hayes.

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May 1982/Rich-Flair, Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.

June 1982/Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka, Wrestlers rate each other.

July 1982/Steamboat-Idol, Albano, Rhodes, Patera.

August 1982/Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater, Rhodes, Valentine, Bockwinkel.

October 1982/Funk-Abdullah, Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.

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JANUARY 1984

January 1984/Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel, Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.

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March 1984/Starrcade '83, Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.

April 1984/Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki, Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.

May 1984/LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins, The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!

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September 1984/Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.

October 1984/Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video, Atlas, Orange Bowl card.

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January 1985/Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund, Fabulous Ones, *Pro Wrestling USA*, Valentine.

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June 1985/Pro Wrestling U.S.A. Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.

July 1985/Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches, Backlund, Snuka.

August 1985/Flair-Nikita, Orndorff, Slaughter, Parade of Champions II.

September 1985/Adams-Von Erich, Orndorff, Sawyer, Kamala, Barr.

October 1985/Martel-Hayes, Richter, Savage, Adams, T.A., Warriors.

November 1985/Freebirds-Warriors, Mid-South, Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.

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January 1986/Savage-Santana, Abdullah, Humongous, Von Raschke, Comiskey Park, Taylor.

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July 1986/Orndorff-Piper, Blanchard-T.A., Matches of '80s, Sheepherders, Bockwinkel, Bulldogs.

August 1986/Crockett Cup Tourny, Jake Roberts, Midnight Rockers, Von Erichs, Wrestling II.

September 1986/Bulldogs, Blanchard-Gibson, Lugar, Dundee, UWF tourny.

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April 1987/1986 In Pictures, Kevin Von, Flair, Rich, Hennig-Bockwinkel.

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July 1987/Midnight Express, Savage-Steamboat, Adams, NWA in Boston.

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September 1987/Hogan, Akbar, Luger-Nikita, Summer Feuds, charity shows.

October 1987/Windham, Bigelow, Bockwinkel, Western States tourny.

November 1987/Bash, Honky Tonk, Hart, Sheepherders, Condrey.

December 1987/Grappling Ghouls, Hogan-Andre, Luger-Nikita, Boesch card

January 1988/Honky Tonk, Garvin, T.A. career, Arcidi, Hogan.

February 1988/Rhodes, Strike Force, Rich-Adonis, Hyatt, 1988 datebook.

March 1988/Starrcade, Survivor Series, Simpson, Hennig, Zbyszko.

April 1988/1987 In Pictures, Tully & Arn, DiBiase, Kerry, Orton.

May 1988/Hawk-Flair, Andre-Hogan, Dangerously, Duggan, Mike George.

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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 52)

Bob Orton (against Alan West) made the right move when he left the WWF for the AWA, writes Arthur Risk.

and go to the AWA and return to his old, villainous ways. He should join up with Adonis and Orton and take on Paul E. Dangerously as his manager. The three of them would win every title in the AWA, and it will be Dangerously's greatest conquest!

ARTHUR RISK
Mt. Clemens, MI

BE FAIR!

Kerry Von Erich has no right to blame Gary Hart for what happened to his father ("Kerry Von Erich Claims: 'Gary Hart Engineered The Freebirds' Attack On My Father!' " April 1988). Everybody who saw the match or read the story knows that Hart and Al Perez did not join in the Freebirds' attack on Fritz Von Erich at all; in fact, Hart later said what the 'Birds did was cowardly.

Kerry says he has proof of Hart's involvement, but where is that proof? He talks a good game, but he doesn't offer any solid evidence. Yes, Hart has been guilty of a lot of wrongdoing in the past, but that doesn't mean he did wrong this time. No matter what he does or how he acts, Hart must be judged fairly on each incident as it occurs. You may not like it, but that's how it should be.

Rather than place the blame on Hart, Kerry should concentrate all his

energies on getting revenge against The Freebirds. Now that it appears Michael Hayes has rejoined the 'Birds, Kerry will have a lot more to handle. He may even need Hart to help him, so he shouldn't criticize him too sharply. The possibility that these two enemies will join forces is slim, but it's possible in the current World Class situation.

By the way, isn't it funny how Michael Hayes doesn't mind The Freebirds joining with Iceman Parsons, but wants them to have nothing to do with Angel of Death? Hayes must be wondering why Terry Gordy and Buddy Roberts accepted the Angel into their group after the troubles they had in the UWF. Hayes must now have some questions about his comrades' loyalties, just as Gordy and Roberts had questions when Hayes got too close with Jimmy Garvin. Nevertheless, I think The Freebirds are strong enough to put their differences aside and focus on their upcoming battles. Let's hope Kerry can do the same.

ELY McKEEVER
Whitefish, MT□

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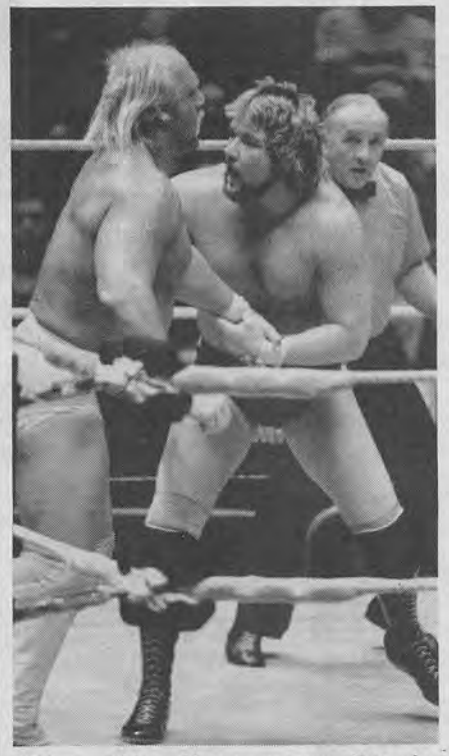
TED DiBIASE

(Continued from page 37)



DiBiase whips Hogan across the ring (above) and chinlocks Bam Bam Bigelow (below), a man just as determined to win the title—by legal means.

would be a joke," echoed Managing Editor Craig Peters. "Any match won by DiBiase would be suspect. Every time DiBiase emerged as a winner, the legitimacy of the referee and the challenger's efforts would be questioned. Also, countouts and disqualifications would be subject to second-guessing by everyone from Tunney to the folks in the cheap seats."

Imagine the plights of contenders like Jake Roberts, Rick Steamboat, Randy Savage, and Brutus Beefcake. Not only would they face the chore of defeating a quality wrestler like DiBiase, they would also have to worry about the legitimacy of every official, from the referees to the timekeeper!

The situation is made even more frustrating by the fact that DiBiase is one of the finest scientific wrestlers in the WWF.

"It's a shame that DiBiase is too insecure to realize he could defeat Ho-

gan without all the hoopla, provided he was given enough title shots," said Apter. "Hogan is bigger and stronger, but to compare their pure wrestling ability is, well, like comparing Smash of Demolition to Lou Thesz. There really is no comparison."

And as far as most fans are concerned, DiBiase and the WWF title are like oil and water: they simply do not mix.

"DiBiase is the biggest jerk ever to hit the WWF," said John Griffin of Oak Hill, New York, in a recent letter to this magazine. "I've been going to the matches for almost 20 years, and I've never seen anyone come into the federation and just violate the rules like he does. It's not enough that he has Virgil, who's big enough to be a wrestler himself, at ringside; he also buys out everybody from the refs to the preliminary bums. If I can't trust the results I see in the ring, then how could I consider the WWF belt a significant title with the Million-Dollar

(Continued on page 58)

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TED DiBIASE

(Continued from page 57)

The "Million-Dollar Man" headlocks Koko B. Ware (above) and puts Bigelow down with an elbowsmash (below). A Ted DiBiase title reign would be an embarrassment to the great past champions of the WWF.

Meathead holding it?"

But perhaps you're looking at all the above speculation and saying: "Well, it's just that—speculation. He tried to get the belt, but he didn't, and he won't."

Well, DiBiase came very, very close to buying the belt from Andre at the Indianapolis match. If DiBiase can come that close once, he can do so again. He's a very determined man. Next time, he might be successful.

The biggest question about DiBiase's conduct is whether his actions have already tarnished the WWF title beyond repair. The gold strap he attempted to purchase from Andre is the same belt once worn by such all-time greats as Bruno Sammartino, Bob Backlund, and Pedro Morales—athletes who put their love of the sport far above any financial reward they may have gained. Their legends will live forever in the hearts and minds of the fans.

All the fans will remember about DiBiase, regardless of whether he becomes champion or not, is the size of his wallet. □

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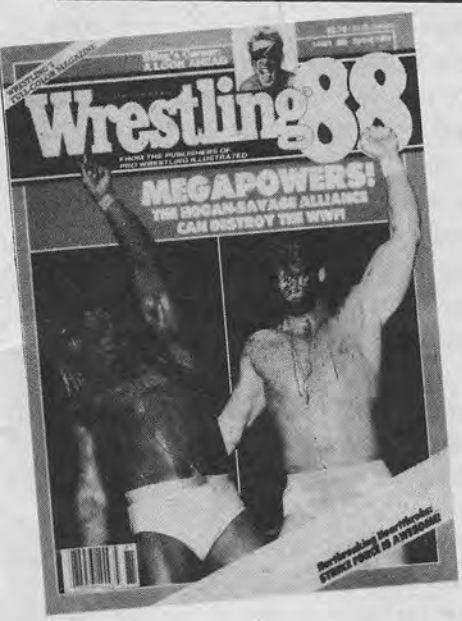

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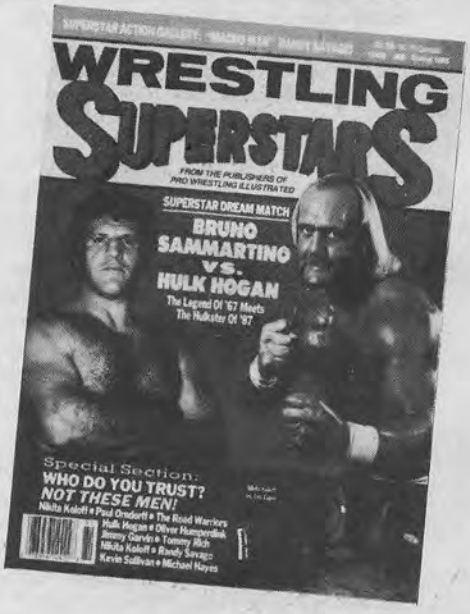

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FALL 1984/Color pinups: Haynes-Nagasaki, Kabuki-Kamala, Steamboat-Slater, Blanchard-Colon. **Stories include:** Hogan, David Von Erich, Flair-Brody, Blanchard.

WINTER 1984/Color pinups: Michael Hayes, Flair-McDaniel, Gilbert-Rich, Haynes-Funk. **Stories include:** Kerry Von Erich, Martel-Bockwinkel, Piper, Flair-Steamboat.

SPRING 1985/Color pinups: Animal-Funk, Poffo-Gilbert, Nikita-Fernandez, Garvin-McDaniel. **Stories include:** Warriors, Hogan, Albano, Rhodes, Sullivan.

SUMMER 1985/Color pinups: Kerry-Flair, Hawk-Lawler, Funk-Slater, Nikita-Rhodes. **Stories include:** Valentine, Windham & Rotundo, Warriors, Flair-Race, Nikita.

FALL 1985/Color pinups: Adams-Kevin Von Erich, Zbyszko-Backlund, Lawler-Brody, Blanchard-T.A. **Stories include:** Von Erichs, Warriors, Hogan-Volkoff, Freebirds.

WINTER 1985/Color pinups: Flair-Kevin Von Erich, Hayes-Hawk, Hogan-Fujinami, DiBiase-Roberts. **Stories include:** Orndorff, Warriors, Brody, Shultz, Duggan.

SPRING 1986/Color pinups: Windham-Sullivan, Andre-Bundy, Taylor-Landell, Hernandez-Kerry. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Warriors, Hogan, Santana, Rude, Williams.

SUMMER 1986/Color pinups: Luger-Barr, Garvin-Flair, Nord-Hawk, Missy-Sunshine. **Stories include:** Warriors-Russians, Savage-Hogan, Kevin Von Erich, Bulldogs.

FALL 1986/Color pinups: Kirchner-Volkoff, Nikita-Hawk, Morton-Flair, Nord-Hennig. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Luger, Savage, Bulldogs, Hansen, Rude, Williams.

WINTER 1986/Color pinups: Rude-Von Erich, Khrushchev-Mantel, Hogan-Adonis, Bockwinkel-DeBeers. **Stories include:** Supercards, Hogan-Orndorff, Horsemen, Snuka, Von Erich.

SPRING 1987/Color pinups: Von Erich-Zulu, Roberts-Hillbilly, Morton-Anderson, DiBiase-Hayes. **Stories include:** Bigelow, Flair, Hogan, Luger, Race, Windham, Hyatt.

SUMMER 1987/Color pinups: Roberts-Kamala, Von Erich-Perez, Morton-Koloff, Snuka-Zukhov. **Stories include:** Windham, Elizabeth, Superpowers, Williams, Albano, Von Erich.

FALL 1987/Color pinups: Animal-Lane, Bigelow-Inoki, Sullivan-Hall, Ware-Honky Tonk. **Stories include:** Midnights, Flair, Steamboat-Savage, Luger, Piper, Hogan-Andre.

WINTER 1987/Color pinups: Tama-Santana, Perez-Steamboat, Rhodes-Flair, Gordy-Gilbert. **Stories include:** Luger-Nikita, R&R Express, Hart, Hogan-Race, Hyatt, Lawler.

SPRING 1988/Color pinups: Jason-Hart, Konga-Sting, OMG-Santana, Von Erich-Adias. **Stories include:** Warriors, Hogan-Andre, DiBiase, Honky Tonk, Magnum T.A., War Games.

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INQUIRING

(Continued from page 10)

rez have already publicly challenged Flair, he would be both a fool and a coward if he avoids this chance at making wrestling history. Indeed, a Hart-Flair or a Perez-Flair series is the stuff a wrestling fan's dreams are made of."

Bruce Miller, Los Angeles, CA: "I don't see any reason why Flair should feel compelled to defend his title outside the NWA. Sure, I understand that when you're the champion everybody and his brother is going to be gunning for you. But Flair has enough talent to deal with right there in the NWA, what with Sting and perennial contender Barry Windham on his tail. If Flair continues to be successful defending his title (and his honor) against grapplers like Sting and Lex Luger, that'll be proof enough for me that he is one of the greatest wrestlers in the game today. You won't need the unnecessary flashiness of an out-of-division title defense to convince me of that greatness."

Lisa Simon, Philadelphia, PA: "I'm amazed that you would even ask such an obviously pointed question. Actually, this type of irresponsible journalism is not new for your magazine. My answer to your inane question, however, is a resounding 'No!' Why should Flair, the heartthrob of the NWA, or

Flair takes on Kerry Von Erich during one of his once-frequent trips to Texas. He lost the title to Kerry in May 1984.

any federation for that matter, have to go outside the NWA and look for competition? If there really are capable wrestlers out there who think they can teach Ric a thing or two, let *them* come to *him*. If guys from other federations want to tangle with Flair, they should be prepared to wrestle on his terms, not draw Flair out to *their* territories, wrestle under *their* rules, with *their* referees, *their* fans, and *their* rings. Absolutely ridiculous! Not to mention that Hart and Perez are really not the caliber of wrestler that Flair is. Didn't his regaining of the belt from Ronnie Garvin teach us anything?"

Lawrence Gardner, San Francisco, CA: "To be honest, I don't care at all whether Ric Flair defends his title or just curls up and dies. To me, Flair is one of the weakest champions to ever rule the NWA. His victory over a clearly superior Ronnie Garvin at Starrcade '87 only proves that the NWA is beneath my consideration. No one was more worthy of the NWA belt as was Garvin, as *Sports Review Wrestling* so aptly pointed out. I just don't know where some so-called wrestling fans come off calling Ric Flair 'champion' as if he's the second coming of Bruno Sammartino or something. Usually this type of blind accolade-hurling occurs only when discussing Hulk Hogan, the latest in a series of poseurs. When will there be a day when true champions like Sammartino, or even Bob Backlund, will again rule wrestling? I don't know the answer, but if Flair has any hopes of one day being as great as many already consider him, it behooves him to first get out of the NWA. I'm surprised a wrestling mastermind like J.J. Dillon continues to manage Flair the way he does. In my mind, Dillon would be more helpful to Flair if he concentrated more on helping improve the NWA rather than making an art form of distracting its referees. But to answer your question, I really don't care *what* becomes of Ric Flair. I generally don't waste my time with losers and braggarts, and we all know that Flair is both." □

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FALL 1984/Color pinup: USA Honor Guard. **Stories include:** Hogan, Blanchard, Rhodes, Santana, Slaughter.

WINTER 1984/Color pinup: Billy Jack Haynes. **Stories include:** Ventura, Adams, Martel, Flair, Reed.

FALL 1985/Color pinup: Steve Keirn & Stan Lane. **Stories include:** Albano & Hogan, DiBiase, Warriors, Garvin.

WINTER 1985/Color pinup: Barry Windham. **Stories include:** Hogan, Zbyszko, Kerry, R&R Express, Steamboat, Thesz.

SPRING 1986/Color pinup: The Road Warriors. **Stories include:** Martel, Savage vs. Poffo, Hogan, Santana, Steamboat.

SUMMER 1986/Color pinup: Rock 'n' Roll Express & Magnum T.A. **Stories include:** Flair, Warriors, JYD, Magnum, Williams.

FALL 1986/Color pinup: Randy Savage. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Missy, Roberts, Windham, Luger, Rhodes.

WINTER 1986/Color pinup: Hulk Hogan. **Stories include:** Flair, Freebirds, Hogan, Andre, Watts, Haynes, Fantastics.

SPRING 1987/Color pinup: The Four Horsemen. **Stories include:** Ventura, T.A., Bulldogs, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

SUMMER 1987/Color pinup: Road Warriors workout. **Stories include:** Hogan-Andre, Rockers, Koloff, Warriors, Hall-Luger.

FALL 1987/Color pinup: Dark Journey. **Stories include:** Albano, Hogan, T.A., Lane, Hyatt, Hennig, Luger.

WINTER 1987/Color pinup: Jesse Ventura. **Stories include:** Kerry, Rhodes, Hogan, Flair, Honky Tonk, DiBiase.

SPRING 1988/Color pinup: Elizabeth. **Stories include:** Hennig, Koloff, Savage, Strike Force, Warriors, Andre-Hogan.

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TATTLER

(Continued from page 8)

en by his own deviousness. His plan was working like a charm, but he couldn't leave well enough alone."

Meanwhile, a rift seems to have developed between The Freebirds. Roberts said he felt badly about hurting Hayes, but Hayes wasn't accepting any apologies. "This wouldn't have happened if Roberts and Iceman [Parsons] didn't start the trouble," Hayes said. Hayes also seems to have befriended the Von Erichs, his former archrivals. Roberts, Parsons, Gordy, and The Angel of Death, however, combined to seriously injure Fritz Von Erich on Christmas Day and are still involved in a fierce feud with the Von Erichs. It'll be interesting to see what happens next.

—Andrew Ray

CHARLOTTE, NC: The top 10 seeds for the third annual $1 million Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament were announced here in early March and, once again, The Road Warriors and manager Paul Ellering feel they were slighted by NWA officials.

"I just don't understand how they decide the seedings," Ellering said. "Last year we were the defending champions, but they decided that the NWA World tag team champs [Manny Fernandez and Rick Rude] should be the number-one seed. Fine. But then they made Nikita Koloff and Dusty Rhodes number two, which made no sense at all, and put us at number three.

"Now they're at it again," Ellering continued. "Once again, I can understand making Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson number one because they have the World belts. But Dusty and Nikita number two? Give me a break! I asked the seeding board why they were seeded two and they said it's because they're the defending champs, but we were defending champs last year and were seeded three! It's ludicrous! Rhodes and Koloff hardly ever wrestle together, and Nikita's been off on vacation!"

The Warriors had a stranglehold on the top spot in the *Sports Review Wrestling* Top 10 tag team ratings until an injury suffered by Animal in late January put "The Legion of Doom" on the sidelines. Animal, however, returned in early March and the Warriors appear headed for

PAUL ELLERING

the top spot once again.

Rounding out the top 10 seeds as of press time were: The Midnight Express (four), Barbarian and Warlord (five), Lex Luger and Barry Windham (six), The Fantastics (seven), The Varsity Club (any unspecified pairing of Kevin Sullivan, Mike Rotundo, and Rick Steiner; eight), Sting and Ronnie Garvin (nine), and Ivan Koloff and Dick Murdoch (10).

The Crockett Cup will be held April 22 in Greenville, South Carolina, and April 23 in Greensboro, North Carolina.

—Ken Miranda

STAMFORD, CT: Bruno Sammartino, a two-time former WWF World heavyweight champion and a commentator on WWF broadcasts since September 1984, announced that he has left the WWF.

"I don't like what has become of wrestling," said Sammartino. "Doggone it, all the gimmicks and hoopla overshadow the actual wrestling. The

BRUNO SAMMARTINO

WWF has also continued to ask me to wrestle, and I do not wish to do so. They've been very demanding about this, but I wish to let my career speak for itself. They have also continued to overlook my son, David, who is a fine wrestler and would be a star in any federation."

Sammartino added that he will be getting involved in several business ventures that will take up much of his time.

—Alison Corey□

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SPORTS REVIEW

Wrestling

Lex Luger

TOP10

1. **RIC FLAIR**
   243, Minneapolis, MN
   NWA World champion
2. **HULK HOGAN**
   302, Venice Beach, CA
   No. 1 contender: vacant WWF title
3. **DUSTY RHODES**
   302, Austin, TX
   U.S. heavyweight champion
4. **LEX LUGER**
   268, Chicago, IL
   No. 3 contender: NWA title
5. **CURT HENNIG**
   235, Minneapolis, MN
   AWA World champion
6. **STING**
   260, Venice Beach, CA
   No. 2 contender: NWA title
7. **KERRY VON ERICH**
   260, Denton, TX
   World Class champion
8. **RANDY SAVAGE**
   245, Sarasota, FL
   No. 1 contender: WWF I-C title
9. **OWEN HART**
   223, Calgary, Alberta
   Stampede North American champion
10. **TERRY TAYLOR**
    225, Vero Beach, FL
    World Class Texas champion

TAG TEAMS

1. **TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON**
   Combined weight: 484 pounds
   NWA World tag team champions
2. **RICK MARTEL & TITO SANTANA**
   Combined weight: 489 pounds
   WWF World tag team champions
3. **BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE**
   Combined weight: 453 pounds
   U.S. tag team champions
4. **THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS**
   Combined weight: 461 pounds
   AWA World tag team champions
5. **THE ROAD WARRIORS**
   Combined weight: 567 pounds
   All-Japan Intl. tag team champions
6. **DEMOLITION**
   Combined weight: 585 pounds
   No. 1 contenders: WWF tag team title
7. **BRETT HART & JIM NEIDHART**
   Combined weight: 515 pounds
   No. 2 contenders: WWF tag team title
8. **THE BRITISH BULLDOGS**
   Combined weight: 461 pounds
   No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title
9. **WARLORD & BARBARIAN**
   Combined weight: 655 pounds
   No. 3 contenders: NWA tag team title
10. **BRUCE HART & BRIAN PILLMAN**
    Combined weight: 437 pounds
    Stampede Intl. tag team champions

NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

1. **DUSTY RHODES** — *302, Austin, TX*
2. **STING** — *260, Venice Beach, CA*
3. **LARRY ZBYSZKO** — *248, Pittsburgh, PA*
4. **LEX LUGER** — *268, Chicago, IL*
5. **MIKE ROTUNDO** — *245, Syracuse, NY*
6. **BARRY WINDHAM** — *236, Sweetwater, TX*
7. **BOBBY EATON** — *233, Huntsville, AL*
8. **RONNIE GARVIN** — *231, Montreal, Quebec*
9. **RON SIMMONS** — *260, Perry, GA*
10. **SHANE DOUGLAS** — *223, Pittsburgh, PA*

WWF

World Champion:
TITLE VACANT
to be filled at WrestleMania IV

1. **THE HONKY TONK MAN** — *255, Memphis, TN*
2. **HULK HOGAN** — *302, Venice Beach, CA*
3. **ANDRE THE GIANT** — *497, Grenoble, France*
4. **TED DiBIASE** — *247, Omaha, NB*
5. **BAM BAM BIGELOW** — *368, Mt. Laurel, NJ*
6. **RANDY SAVAGE** — *245, Sarasota, FL*
7. **BRUTUS BEEFCAKE** — *273, San Francisco, CA*
8. **HACKSAW DUGGAN** — *280, Glens Falls, NY*
9. **JAKE ROBERTS** — *246, Stone Mountain, GA*
10. **RICK STEAMBOAT** — *238, Honolulu, HI*

AWA

World Champion:
CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN

1. **GREG GAGNE** — *220, Robbinsdale, MN*
2. **WAHOO McDANIEL** — *280, Midland, TX*
3. **KEVIN KELLY** — *271, Oakland, CA*
4. **BOB ORTON JR.** — *245, Kansas City, KS*
5. **SOLDAT USTINOV** — *265, Moscow, Russia*
6. **SGT. SLAUGHTER** — *310, Parris Island, SC*
7. **BARON VON RASCHKE** — *271, Berlin, Germany*
8. **JERRY SAGONOVICH** — *270, Allentown, PA*
9. **THE GRAPPLER** — *280, parts unknown*
10. **JEFF JARRETT** — *200, Hendersonville, TN*

WORLD CLASS

World Class Champion:
KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX

1. **AL PEREZ** — *238, Tampa, FL*
2. **MICHAEL HAYES** — *255, Marietta, GA*
3. **TERRY GORDY** — *289, Chattanooga, TN*
4. **KEVIN VON ERICH** — *235, Denton, TX*
5. **TERRY TAYLOR** — *225, Vero Beach, FL*
6. **CHRIS ADAMS** — *228, Stratford, England*
7. **MATT BORNE** — *235, Portland, OR*
8. **ERIC EMBRY** — *225, Lexington, KY*
9. **ICEMAN PARSONS** — *245, St. Louis, MO*
10. **STEVE SIMPSON** — *215, Johannesburg, S. Africa*

OFFICIAL RATINGS

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board. Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our offices. All other ratings are based on the official current positions of challengers to the top title in each category; certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings.

For period ended March 11, 1988

OST POPULAR

1. **HULK HOGAN**
   302, Venice Beach, CA
   Last month: No. 1 Most Popular
2. **DUSTY RHODES**
   302, Austin, TX
   Last month: No. 3 Most Popular
3. **STING**
   260, Venice Beach, CA
   Last month: No. 5 Most Popular
4. **LEX LUGER**
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   Last month: No. 2 Most Popular
5. **RANDY SAVAGE**
   245, Sarasota, FL
   Last month: No. 4 Most Popular
6. **KERRY VON ERICH**
   260, Denton, TX
   Last month: No. 6 Most Popular
7. **BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
   273, San Francisco, CA
   Last month: unrated
8. **HACKSAW DUGGAN**
   280, Glens Falls, NY
   Last month: No. 7 Most Popular
9. **OWEN HART**
   223, Calgary, Alberta
   Last month: No. 10 Most Popular
0. **BARRY WINDHAM**
   236, Sweetwater, TX
   Last month: No. 8 Most Popular

MOST HATED

1. **TED DiBIASE**
   247, Omaha, NB
   Last month: No. 2 Most Hated
2. **ANDRE THE GIANT**
   497, Grenoble, France
   Last month: No. 1 Most Hated
3. **RIC FLAIR**
   243, Minneapolis, MN
   Last month: No. 3 Most Hated
4. **LARRY ZBYSZKO**
   248, Pittsburgh, PA
   Last month: No. 4 Most Hated
5. **THE HONKY TONK MAN**
   255, Memphis, TN
   Last month: No. 5 Most Hated
6. **CURT HENNIG**
   235, Minneapolis, MN
   Last month: No. 7 Most Hated
7. **EDDIE GILBERT**
   222, Lexington, TN
   Last month: unrated
8. **AL PEREZ**
   238, Tampa, FL
   Last month: unrated
9. **TERRY TAYLOR**
   225, Vero Beach, FL
   Last month: unrated
10. **MIKE ROTUNDO**
    245, Syracuse, NY
    Last month: unrated

CUMULATIVE RATINGS

These ratings are based on the past 10 issues of this magazine. We have examined our ratings for each of those issues—in our Top 10 and Tag Team categories only—and assigned each position a point value: 10 points for a number-one rating, nine for a number-two ranking, and so on down to one point for a number-10 rating. The point values for all wrestlers in the past 10 issues have been compiled, allowing a maximum of 100 points. Each issue we'll present the top five finishers in each category. While our regular ratings reflect the past month, these cumulative ratings give an indication of wider trends in the sport.

SINGLES

1—HULK HOGAN ..... 94 points
2—RIC FLAIR ..... 94 points
3—LEX LUGER ..... 63 points
4—NIKITA KOLOFF ..... 46 points
5—BARRY WINDHAM ..... 45 points

TAG TEAMS

1—THE ROAD WARRIORS ..... 86 points
2—THE HART FOUNDATION ..... 73 points
3—BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE ..... 71 points
4—TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON ... 68 points
5—RICK MARTEL & TITO SANTANA ..... 47 points

STAMPEDE

North American Champion:
OWEN HART
223, Calgary, Alberta

1. **GAMA SINGH**
   220, Karachi, Pakistan
2. **MAKHAN SINGH**
   380, Saginaw, MI
3. **JASON THE TERRIBLE**
   270, parts unknown
4. **BRIAN PILLMAN**
   226, Cincinnati, OH
5. **CHRIS BENOIT**
   218, Edmonton, Alberta
6. **STEVE DiSALVO**
   260, Ft. Bragg, NC
7. **JOHNNY SMITH**
   235, Manchester, England
8. **BRUCE HART**
   211, Calgary, Alberta
9. **KERRY BROWN**
   225, Kansas City, MO
10. **RIP ROGERS**
    238, Atlanta, GA

CWA

CWA Champion:
MAX PAIN
350, Iowa City, IA

1. **TOMMY RICH**
   248, Hendersonville, TN
2. **BILL DUNDEE**
   214, Melbourne, Australia
3. **EDDIE GILBERT**
   222, Lexington, TN
4. **JEFF JARRETT**
   200, Hendersonville, TN
5. **JIMMY JACK FUNK**
   243, Portland, OR
6. **STEVE KEIRN**
   235, Tampa, FL
7. **DON BASS**
   230, Memphis, TN
8. **GARY YOUNG**
   240, Houston, TX
9. **MANNY FERNANDEZ**
   245, El Paso, TX
10. **DOUG GILBERT**
    230, Lexington, TN

CONTINENTAL/USA

Continental Champion:
LORD HUMONGOUS
325, parts unknown

1. **DUTCH MANTEL**
   224, Oil Trough, TX
2. **TOM PRITCHARD**
   220, Houston, TX
3. **DAN DAVIS**
   238, Nashville, TN
4. **THE BULLET**
   234, parts unknown
5. **TONY ANTHONY**
   235, Bucksnorth, TN
6. **SCOTT ARMSTRONG**
   212, Marietta, GA
7. **SCOTT HALL**
   290, Minneapolis, MN
8. **BUDDY LANDELL**
   236, Los Angeles, CA
9. **FRANK LANCASTER**
   239, Atlanta, GA
10. **HECTOR GUERRERO**
    218, Mexico City

PUERTO RICO

WWC Champion:
HERCULES AYALA
273, Bayoman, PR

1. **CARLOS COLON**
   246, Santa Isabel, PR
2. **ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER**
   360, Khartoum, Sudan
3. **INVADER I**
   227, San Lorenzo, PR
4. **DUTCH MANTEL**
   224, Oil Trough, TX
5. **BRUISER BRODY**
   284, Albuquerque, NM
6. **MIGUEL PEREZ JR.**
   232, Carolena, PR
7. **SUPER BLACK NINJA**
   245, Tokyo, Japan
8. **TNT**
   242, parts unknown
9. **KENDO NAGASAKI**
   248, Singapore
10. **BOBBY JAGGERS**
    285, Dunlap, KS

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 135 wrestlers in 12 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Continental Championship Wrestling splits! Professional wrestling continues to undergo tremendous change, and the latest federation affected is Continental Championship Wrestling, which operates predominately in the Southeast United States. In mid-February, CCW divided into two groups: Continental and U.S.A.

Continental will operate in the Florida panhandle, Alabama, and parts of Mississippi. **Dutch Mantel**, the Southeast Continental champion, is involved in a feud with **Wendell Cooley** (sidelined with a broken right kneecap suffered during an attack by Mantel) **Robert Fuller**, and **Jimmy Golden.** Among the talent in Continental are **Lord Humongous, Dan Davis, Frankie Lancaster, Scott Hall, Jay Strongbow Jr.**, manager **Downtown Bruno, Tony Anthony**, and a new 310-pounder named **Detroit Demolition.**

Doug Furnas

U.S.A. Wrestling will run shows in Tennessee, Kentucky, and parts of Ohio, West Virginia, and North Carolina. U.S.A. Tennessee champion **Doug Furnas**, formerly the *Continental* Tennessee champ, is feuding with **Buddy Landell. The Rock 'n' Roll RPMs** are the tag team champions. Other talent includes: **Hector Guerrero, Moondog Spot, Mongolian Stomper, Bob Armstrong, Scott Armstrong, Johnny Rich**, and his cousin **Davey Rich.** The first U.S.A. heavyweight champion will be crowned in a tournament at a future date.

Here's how this affects our ratings. Although Continental and USA have split, we're keeping them together under one ratings category, modifying the heading from "Continental" to "Continental/USA."

"They won't be running shows together right away, but there's a good chance that they will in the near future, sort of like the NWA/UWF co-promotions of the past." said *Sports Review Wrestling* Senior Editor **Bill Apter**. Should the split between the two areas become more distinct in the future, the single category could be split into two, with one of them falling into occasional representation in our revolving spot.

Most Hated Tag Teams. Last month we looked at the 10 most popular tag teams in wrestling. Now here's a look at the teams you love to hate. As is the case with our monthly Most Popular and Most Hated categories, these ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our office. We'd like to hear what you think.

One note of interest: AWA World tag team champions **The Midnight Rockers** were ranked sixth in the Most Popular tag teams ratings and show up again in the Most Hated ratings. The Rockers are still very popular in many AWA towns, but have made quite a few enemies in the CWA. Their feud with **The Rock 'n' Roll Express**, perennially one of the most beloved teams in the sport, has made the Rockers even more hated.

MOST HATED TAG TEAMS

1—THE WARLORD & KONGA THE BARBARIAN
No. 3 contenders to NWA tag team title
2—BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE
U.S. tag team champions
3—DEMOLITION
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
4—TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON
NWA World tag team champions
5—THE ISLANDERS
No. 3 contenders to WWF tag team title
6—BRETT HART & JIM NEIDHART
No. 2 contenders to WWF tag team title
7—JOHN TATUM & JACK VICTORY
Wild West & WCCW Texas tag team champions
8—THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS
AWA World tag team champions
9—MIKE ROTUNDO & RICK STEINER
No. 5 contenders to NWA tag team title
10—JIMMY GOLDEN & ROBERT FULLER
Southeast Continental tag team champions

We're back in Puerto Rico. This month, the World Wrestling Council becomes the first area to appear twice in our revolving ratings category. And there are plenty of changes in this area since we checked in last time. **Hercules Ayala** recently won the WWC Universal title from the legendary **Carlos Colon**; **Abdullah the Butcher** defeated **Miguel Perez Jr.** for the WWC North American championship; and Perez won the WWC Puerto Rican belt from **Kareem Muhammad**. Ironically, Colon won the belt from Ayala shortly after our first Puerto Rico ratings appeared in the November 1987 issue, and lost the belt just days before these ratings were compiled.

Mail call! We're looking forward to hearing what you think about the Most Hated tag team ratings, the Continental split, WWC ratings, and anything else that's on your mind. Send your comments to: "Ratings Analysis," c/o *Sports Review Wrestling,* Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

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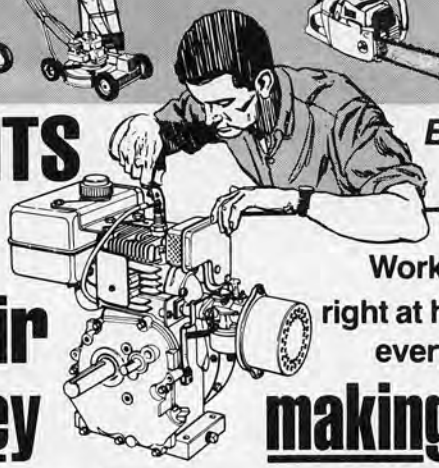

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